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SOUTHEAST ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

VOLUME 2

March 18, 1999
9:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Northern Southeast Regional
Aquaculture Association Building

Sitka, Alaska

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- William C. Thomas, Chairman
- Dolly Garza, Vice Chairman
- Patricia A. Phillips, Secretary
- John F. Vale
- Herman Kitka, Sr.
- Alan J. Sorum
- Marilyn R. Wilson
- Mim McConnell
- Lonnie Anderson
- Mary Rudolph
- David Johnson, Regional Coordinator
- Salena A. Hile, Court Reporter

P R O C E E D I N G S

(On record - 9:00 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Good morning everybody.

Nice to see everybody here all rested up and bright and bushy-tailed, and ready to take on some additional wisdom today. So maybe our day won't be quite so gruelling as it was yesterday. But we finished yesterday with the report on the Fisheries Update from Greg Bos, and the next thing on the agenda is report on the C&T Working Group presented by Rachel Mason so I'll turn the floor over to Rachel.

MS. MASON: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Is my mic working?

COURT REPORTER: It is.

MS. MASON: At your last meeting you made recommendations on the direction that this region feels that the C&T process should go. And in order to refresh your memory I put it up on the flip chart over there. This was the motion that was voted on at the last session. What I'm here to do is to report on the actions of the working group. And the last meeting of the working group met to discuss the recommendations of all the Councils that were developed at the fall meetings.

As you know, the C&T Working Group was established by the Federal Subsistence Board in May 1998. The purpose of the Board was to address concerns that had come up initiated by the Regional Councils, problems that were evident with the C&T process and to establish the direction that C&T should go. And the members of the working group were Mitch Demientieff, the Chair of the council, Regional Council Chairs, Dan O'Hara, Craig Fleener and Bill Thomas. Staff Committee, Ida Hildebrand, Sandy Rabinowitch, Ken Thompson and Keith Goltz and Elizabeth Andrews participated from ADF&G.

We're were fortunate that several of these people are here with us today. Bill is here. I don't know if Elizabeth is here. Ida is. And Ken was here.

MR. BOS: He left yesterday.

MS. MASON: Ken's gone, okay. Bill and Ida, I hope, after I'm through will be able to fill you in a little more about the work of the C&T Working Group.

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1 The working group met three times total and at its
2 final meeting which was on November 18th, the working group
3 reviewed the Council's recommendations on C&T, and several
4 areas of concern were noted by the Councils but there was no
5 clear agreement regarding this issue. The working group
6 discussed the Council's recommendations and passed a motion
7 by a vote of 4-3 recommending that the Board make no changes
8 at this time to the C&T process. And as Bill indicated to
9 you yesterday, no clear direction was given, either by the
10 Council's actions or by the working group discussion.

11
12 To summarize the Regional Council recommendations,
13 one of the 10 Councils, which was the Eastern Interior voted
14 to dispense entirely the current C&T process, but almost all
15 of the Councils recommended that some changes be made. That
16 the process be changed in some way. Three of the Councils,
17 including Southcentral, Bristol Bay, and Y-K wanted to keep
18 the eight factor approach. But even some of these
19 recommended some, either potential or definitely changes of
20 approach or different emphasis. And two of the Councils
21 recommended a modified factor approach.

22
23 Most of the Councils, either in their discussion or
24 in the actual motion wanted to have a stronger voice in how
25 C&T determinations were made, and that's shown by the support
26 for the Council recommendation option, in which each Council
27 would decide whatever the process would be in its region.
28 And as you remember, the Southeast had a version of that
29 approach because you specified that the C&T determinations
30 would be done at the unit level on a community basis and for
31 all species.

32
33 And that gets us to some of the common areas of
34 concern that were identified by the Councils, and in their
35 comments on the C&T process. One of them was the importance
36 of traditional knowledge. And the need to formally recognize
37 the importance of that. And the point was made several times
38 by the Councils and in the working group, that the oral
39 testimony of traditional -- of knowledgeable local residents
40 is as valuable as scientifically gathered data as evidence of
41 customary and traditional uses. And the Councils and the
42 working group members requested full recognition in proposal
43 analysis and in the Federal Subsistence Board consideration
44 of proposals.

45
46 A second area of concern was a request to do multiple
47 species or all species analysis instead of doing it species
48 by species. And several Councils expressed this. Some
49 members suggested that doing C&T analysis for more than one

50 species at a time would recognize the opportunistic nature of

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1 subsistence uses and others observed that just in terms of
2 efficiency of analysis, that since much of the information
3 that the Staff gathers for the analysis is the same for
4 different species, it would be more efficient to do them all
5 at once. It would make more sense.

6
7 So a third area of concern that also came up in our
8 discussions in this region addresses differences between
9 regions. And this refers to the possibility, especially if
10 the different regions have different approaches to C&T, that
11 there might be problems in deciding what to do with the
12 overlap proposals. And in terms of this region, I guess that
13 would make the most -- the area of concern would be overlaps
14 with the Southcentral Council.

15
16 Another example is the desire of some Councils to
17 establish C&T determinations for all species within a unit
18 while others wanted to go species by species. And then
19 others want to retain the least restrictive determination, no
20 determination finding, meaning that all rural residents are
21 eligible unless there's a biological problem with a
22 particular species. So this is basically a problem in
23 consistency. And as you know there are already problems in
24 consistency in the current C&T process.

25
26 In terms of the next steps, the C&T Working Group did
27 not develop any findings that would require changes in the
28 regulations. Although the group voted to meet again, members
29 of the group concluded, I think, that further meetings of the
30 working group were not likely to be helpful. And while the
31 Federal Subsistence Board is awaiting a solicitor's opinion
32 on certain aspects of the C&T process, Chairman Mitch
33 Demientieff has requested that no substantive changes in the
34 approach to C&T be made at this time. He asked that an
35 overview of the working group be provided to each of the
36 Councils, which is what I'm doing now, and in the meantime
37 the Federal Subsistence Program will continue to operate in
38 some version of the current C&T process.

39
40 I'm going to turn to Bill.

41
42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thanks.

43
44 MS. MASON: To elaborate on what's going on
45 with the working group, and also Ida has further -- more
46 specific information on what each of the Council's decided.
47 So I'll turn to you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. The working group

50 hasn't progressed very far from the time we started, and

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1 we'll be a year old in May. We've had two meetings in
2 Anchorage as a working group and Rachel just gave you the
3 differences of approaches that the different regions feel
4 might be -- might serve their region the best. And so when
5 we get to our working group as a group, and meeting with
6 Staff, our discussions don't go very far because we don't
7 have -- we don't know where the Board wants to go with this.
8 They gave us a blanket request. They said, how do you folks
9 want to approach C&Ts, what do you think would be the best
10 factors, give us a recommendation, let us consider it, and
11 we'll either accept or reject it. And so this can go on
12 indefinitely. I mean we can make a career out of being a
13 task force and never wind up any place. So like I mentioned
14 in my report yesterday, I think it would be prudent for us to
15 include in our annual report, a request from the Board to
16 give us some idea of what their ambitions are on how to
17 apply.

18
19 Now, that they've accepted -- it's a concept that was
20 not part of ANILCA to begin with. It was concept that was
21 introduced to them that they adopted and embraced. Now, that
22 they're dancing with a bear and they don't know when the
23 music's going to stop.

24
25 So I'm hoping that they can tell us what was
26 presented to them, what attracted them to the idea of dealing
27 with C&Ts as a management factor to begin with. What was it
28 intended to do, how was it supposed to be applied? If we
29 knew all that then we could come up with what would work the
30 best for any given region or community but we don't have that
31 to work with. So everything we've done so far we're trying
32 to speculate. And speculation in a process like this has
33 never been fruitful. So I think it's really a hazardous
34 approach.

35
36 So I think if we can back up a little bit and get
37 back to the beginning of how C&Ts were introduced to the
38 Board to begin with.

39
40 It makes reference to it in ANILCA, but it's not a
41 requirement in management. In fact, it has never been a
42 requirement in management. When C&Ts were first introduced
43 to this region, I can't tell you the elation that swept over
44 the Council members because we thought that was an
45 opportunity then to document some of the things that haven't
46 been documented that would depict the term of use in any
47 natural resource and it's association with the users.
48 Because the first couple of years of existence, we said well,
49 I mean we were told, well, we don't have the data to support

50 what we're trying to do. We don't have the scientific

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1 information to support what our ambitions are, when we in
2 fact did. Because I think the Council, after a while, felt
3 that their local knowledge and the local knowledge that they
4 had access to in communities were every bit as scientific as
5 somebody with a degree, with a baccalaureate degree in that
6 same field was and sometimes better. Because the people with
7 the baccalaureate degree come to the people with local
8 knowledge to be able to get their masters and doctorates, and
9 they wouldn't be able to without those resources. So we felt
10 like the knowledge we had at our disposal was every bit as
11 credible as what they would make reference to as formal
12 biology or formal science.

13
14 But being the subsistence project that we're involved
15 with, I think we need to probably introduce some -- an image
16 of maturity, and adaption to society as society has changed.
17 We're still dealing with subsistence issues and discussing
18 them in the same language, the same protocols that we did 100
19 years ago but the expectations for management are different
20 than that. So we have to keep pace with that. And in order
21 for us to do that, we need to know what the ambitions of the
22 people that first embraced the idea of C&Ts as a factor to
23 manage subsistence. We need to know how they planned on
24 using that.

25
26 I mean if you're going to paddle a canoe for speed,
27 then you're going to have a certain designed paddle. If
28 you're going to paddle it for power, you're going to have a
29 different paddle. I mean so you need different tools for
30 different applications.

31
32 So unless we can understand the ambitions of the
33 Board, it will be very difficult for us to make any progress
34 from where we're at. We worked hard. The Staff -- we met
35 twice and the Staff would patiently attend our meetings,
36 they'd record our meetings, they'd do whatever analysis they
37 could with it, come up with a summary and they put that
38 together and they come up with different -- different
39 scenarios. Different applications. Different Regions.
40 We've even considered persona ideas on this thing. And we
41 haven't got off the tile that we started on last year. A lot
42 of discussion has gone by. I mean I can't tell you the
43 discussion that's gone by. Good discussion. I mean it's
44 good for the ego because you really sound intelligent at
45 these discussions and then you arrive with a big bubble see.

46
47 So I just -- like I said in my report yesterday, it's
48 my personal feeling that the Board needs to exert their
49 leadership and give us some idea of what they hope to do with

50 C&T once it's delivered to them. Because everything we've

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1 delivered so far was not acceptable because they don't know
2 how to use it. And so we'd try something else and we keep on
3 trying. There's a million things we haven't tried yet but we
4 still don't know in that million if there's anything that
5 will be embraced.

6
7 So for us to speculate and try to progress, I think
8 it's going to be a very difficult challenge. I appreciate
9 Rachel's courage in even trying to give us an update on it
10 because it's hard to update on something that didn't happen.
11 And with that, I'll let Ida finish up. Ida has a different
12 -- you'll hear another approach. You're going to get a good
13 idea of our discussions at our task force meetings.

14
15 Ida.

16
17 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff
18 Committee member. It was the force of task.

19
20 I think part of the problem, especially the last
21 meeting of the task group was that the Chairman of the Board
22 Mitch Demientieff was absent and he had a real definite focus
23 and plan that he wanted really hear from the Councils what
24 did they want and recognize that the current system isn't
25 really working for the benefit of subsistence users, which
26 was basically the statement of all Regional Councils.

27
28 The second problem, in my opinion, was that the Staff
29 analysis of what all the Regional Councils had commented on
30 and voted on were not properly documented for the task group.
31 It basically came out and said that they all supported the
32 eight factor system, which wasn't quite true, although the
33 motions kind of read in that light. What they did support
34 was they did want a C&T process that resembles the eight
35 factor process but they did not want to make it -- they
36 wanted to design their own by either adding to or deleting
37 factors or establishing the weight of any given factor with a
38 very strong incorporation of traditional knowledge and the
39 value of traditional knowledge to be part of the analysis
40 that were presented to the Councils, and that wasn't
41 reflected in the summaries that were given to the task group.

42
43 In listening to ourselves, as we struggled through
44 whatever we were talking about, in my opinion, it was
45 beginning to show that the use of C&T in the program had
46 passed its purposes. That the program had evolved to a place
47 where they didn't need C&T because they had already
48 established -- from all the C&T that has already been done
49 and are already on the books that there was indeed customary

50 and traditional uses by all Native groups and Native people

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1 for every species.

2

3 And that because of that, your statement on your --
4 the Southeast statement on C&T.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Let's take a two minute
7 break.

8

9 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you.

10

11 (Off record - 9:22 a.m.)

12

13 (On record - 9:26 a.m.)

14

15 MS. HILDEBRAND: That C&T no longer serves a
16 process that it was originally created to do because the
17 program had evolved to a place where most species were
18 already recognized of having C&T. Some of the Councils were
19 saying that subsistence was opportunistic hunting or
20 gathering, that if you had C&T for one species or several
21 species, you had established C&T for all species. And also
22 the emphasis on traditional knowledge is that if you -- if
23 the Native people have been here since the dawn of creation,
24 and have existed off these species, to require or defeat that
25 by saying you don't have documentation from -- written
26 documentation from the last 30 years was counter to the
27 purpose of C&T.

28

29 And many of the Councils, although wanted some kind
30 of a process, as I stated, wanted to weigh or decide how
31 those factors would be made and make recommendations to the
32 Board regarding those and it would be specific to their
33 respective regions.

34

35 I think the question is still unanswered, and Mr.
36 Demientieff as Chairman of the Board was hoping we would
37 resolve the issue of C&T before fish began. But since that
38 hasn't been done, in my opinion, he would probably call for
39 another group or call for some other discussion or resolution
40 to the question.

41

42 I think it's important to have some sort of
43 resolution. And in the light of looking at it as evolution,
44 a theme that I constantly hear at Councils all over the state
45 is they want a system that would address their concerns of
46 whatever species they have in their area. When they say, we
47 notice a decline, that you don't want until you're in .804
48 when there's almost a destruction of that species before you
49 stop or do something. And that it seemed to me that the

50 program was evolving into a more progressive category where

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1 the Councils were saying, okay, this species is in some kind
2 of trouble, we want to be able to stop the hunt, whether it
3 was their own -- among the rural users or all users, they
4 wanted a process that would allow them to do that before you
5 get to .804, and that's a real concern that's stated by
6 almost all the Councils.

7
8 So I suppose you'll be hearing from the Chairman of
9 the Board regarding where he's going with it or if he's going
10 to be.....

11
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, before you hear the
13 Chairman of the Board, you're going to hear from the Chairman
14 of the Council.

15
16 MS. HILDEBRAND: Uh-huh.

17
18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Now, that's what I pointed
19 out yesterday. See, we're not all on the same waive length
20 on the task force either, which makes it a healthy mix. But
21 Ida just confirmed in her last comment one of my greatest
22 fears in this is that the way that C&T is being viewed now is
23 a self-imposing restriction on the eligible subsistence users
24 prior to getting to .804, which I think is a hazard.
25 Something needs to be done long before we get to .804, but I
26 don't think the C&T should be converted from a point of
27 reference to a management factor to accomplish that.

28
29 If we're going to have a process, well, let's call it
30 something besides C&T. See, up until now, whenever C&Ts were
31 used, any discussion regarding the harvest of -- well,
32 anything, in any context that C&T is used in it's always used
33 as a reference to depict a long-term duration of something.
34 It's an introduced expression. And so to change it from
35 that, I think, we're going to wind up wanting to change and
36 convert other expressions that we find in the language of
37 ANILCA, and I see that as a hazard.

38
39 So I have a difficult time sharing some of those same
40 sentiments with other regions. Because it sounds to me like
41 there are disciplines that are lacking in the users of some
42 regions and they need to have something on the books to
43 protect them from themselves. If that's the case then we
44 need to hear that that's the case. But we're not getting the
45 information we need in order to address those problems. I
46 think the problems can be addressed but I think we need to
47 address them with something besides C&T.

48
49 Thank you, Ida.

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1 MS. MASON: I don't have anything else, Mr.
2 Chairman.

3
4 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, gang, get her. Mim.

5
6 MS. McCONNELL: I have a question for you,
7 what would you suggest replacing it with? Do you have any
8 ideas on that?

9
10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No, I'm happy with .804.

11
12 MS. McCONNELL: You what?

13
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I'm happy with .804.

15
16 MS. PHILLIPS: With what?

17
18 MS. McCONNELL: Uh-huh.

19
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Section .804.

21
22 MS. McCONNELL: Replace it with .804?

23
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No, just don't add anything
25 to .804.

26
27 MS. PHILLIPS: Don't add anything.

28
29 MS. McCONNELL: Don't add anything to .804?

30
31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No. Because.....

32
33 MS. McCONNELL: So C&T is adding to .804?

34
35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah. Yeah. Go to .801 --
36 let's go to .801. Okay, verbatim. The Congress finds and
37 declares that the continuation of the opportunity for
38 subsistence by use by rural residents of Alaska, including
39 both Native and non-Natives on the public lands and by the
40 Alaska Native on Native lands is essential to Native
41 physical, economic, traditional and cultural existence, and
42 non-Native physical, economic, traditional, and social
43 existence. And it says here, that -- okay, continuation of
44 opportunity for subsistence uses of resources on public and
45 other lands in Alaska is threatened by the increasing
46 population of Alaska with result in pressure on subsistence
47 resources by sudden decline in the population of some
48 wildlife species which are crucial subsistence resources by
49 increased accessibility of remote areas containing

50 subsistence resource and by taking of fish and wildlife in a

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1 manner inconsistent with recognized principles of fish and
2 wildlife management. And then it goes on about fulfilling.

3
4 And it says in .802, it says, hereby declared the
5 policy of Congress that consistent with sound management
6 principles and the conservation of healthy populations of
7 fish and wildlife, the utilization of the public lands in
8 Alaska is to cause the least adverse impact on the rural
9 residents who depend on subsistence uses of the resource of
10 such lands consistent with management of fish and wildlife in
11 accordance with the recognized scientific principles for the
12 purposes of each unit as established and designated are
13 expanded by pursuant to Titles II through VII of this act.

14
15 The purpose of this title is to provide the
16 opportunity for rural residents engaging in a subsistence way
17 of life to do so.

18
19 Non-wasteful subsistence uses of fish and wildlife
20 and other renewable resources shall be the priority
21 consumptive uses of all such resources on public lands of
22 Alaska necessary to restrict taking in order to assure the
23 continued viability of fish and wildlife population and
24 continuation of subsistence uses of such populations. The
25 taking of such population for non-wasteful subsistence uses
26 shall be given a preference on public lands by the
27 consumptive uses.

28
29 Okay. And then you get into .804, except as
30 otherwise provided in this Act and other Federal laws, the
31 taking on public lands of fish and wildlife for non-wasteful
32 subsistence uses shall be accorded a priority over the taking
33 of such lands of fish and wildlife for other purposes.
34 Whenever it is necessary to restrict the taking of
35 populations of fish and wildlife on such land for subsistence
36 -- whenever it is necessary to restrict the taking of
37 populations of fish and wildlife on such lands for
38 subsistence uses in order to protect the continued viability
39 of such populations or to continue such uses, said priority
40 shall be implemented to the appropriate limitations based on
41 the application of the following criteria: Customary and
42 direct dependence upon the populations as a mainstay of
43 livelihood, local residency and availability of alternative
44 resources. Okay, that's if you're going to restrict non-
45 eligible users.

46
47 C&T, with the eight factors in place would
48 essentially impose the same restrictions on subsistence users
49 because the first thing that happened two years ago, when we

50 dealt with some controversial proposals, if you remember last

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1 year, the first thing we got was a request for
2 reconsideration because not all eight factors were satisfied
3 by the Board requesting for reconsideration. So those eight
4 factors, to determine the application of C&T is a definite
5 detriment and direct conflict with the provisions stated in
6 .801.

7
8 So by adopting a C&T use for restricting subsistence
9 activities is at Section .804 which is designed to protect
10 the priority uses of the rural residents. The way we're
11 approaching C&Ts right now with some of the ambitions of some
12 regions would be to impose a similar restriction on themself
13 and I don't know if those regions all understand the
14 implications of doing that.

15
16 That's my interpretation. Ida.

17
18 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff
19 Committee member. I think part of the wanting to restrict
20 themselves wasn't that they're out of control and killing
21 everything that exists, but more in the light of if we're
22 going to say we want -- everyone wants to avoid .804, which
23 is a shortage or a drastically decline in any given species,
24 that they wanted a process that would not only restrict
25 subsistence users but would restrict all users to ensure that
26 that particular population doesn't go to .804. And it
27 isn't, I don't think, that any group is deliberately wiping
28 out their own species, but in addition to subsistence hunting
29 and fishing in any area there is sports and recreational and
30 every other kind of people out there hunting those same
31 species. So it was to address a problem that's been created
32 by everybody but accepting the responsibility of also
33 restricting themselves in the desire to not end up in .804.

34
35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: If that's the case, then I
36 haven't seen any evidence presented to us as a task force for
37 any of those regions that specified that.

38
39 MS. HILDEBRAND: That's true, we weren't
40 presented with any evidence. But part of the problem was
41 because we were still in discussion and that's why it's an
42 unfinished conversation or an unfinished discussion, is
43 because these were the concerns that were being raised but
44 none of the people in the task group had time to really
45 reflect on those. Because as I stated, some of those written
46 materials or summaries weren't properly presented to the task
47 group. And the only way that I know the difference is
48 because I did go through -- I either attended all the
49 Regional Council meetings that dealt with their

50 recommendations on C&T or I read through every transcript

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1 verbatim regarding their entire discussion of C&T, and all
2 that was presented to the task group was -- in the summary
3 was how they voted and the vote doesn't reflect the summary
4 of those Councils.

5
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Well, what I'm
7 saying, based on my observations and what I've had to read
8 presents to me more of a detriment than an advantage. I'm
9 not objecting to a process that these people want. I don't
10 think we should convert C&T from a point of reference to a
11 managing factor. That's all I'm saying.

12
13 Thank you.

14
15 MS. PHILLIPS: Ida. Mr. Chair.

16
17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Patty.

18
19 MS. PHILLIPS: I'm just trying to grasp what
20 -- you know, your discussion here.

21
22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It's clear as crystal, I
23 don't know what your problem is.

24
25 MS. PHILLIPS: What some of the other areas
26 in Alaska are experiencing is a decline in their populations
27 and yet, some of the more rural areas that are far more
28 isolated than other areas are saying they want to be able to
29 have -- harvest the resource and have the ability over some
30 other qualified rural residents; is that what I'm
31 understanding you saying?

32
33 MS. HILDEBRAND: I don't think that's quite
34 what I'm saying. It's all Councils were asked what to you
35 think about C&T in your specific area, and all Councils
36 responded with C&T from their specific area. And from
37 listening to all of them, and realizing that they all need to
38 meet, at least, once to hear each other or maybe should have
39 the courtesy of having their transcripts sent to each other
40 so they'd understand what the other Council said, they
41 weren't saying, I want to manage my own area and I want to
42 manage your area.

43
44 MS. PHILLIPS: Right.

45
46 MS. HILDEBRAND: But they are saying, whoever
47 comes in this area and is impacting these species, we want
48 some mechanism that will protect the species so we won't go
49 into .804.

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1 MS. PHILLIPS: And so they're considering
2 using C&T designations for that?

3
4 MS. HILDEBRAND: No, they're not using C&T
5 designation, but in the discussion of C&T that's the issue
6 that arose. And I think if the discussion continues, that
7 the next question would be, has C&T, indeed, exceeded its
8 original purpose or do we need to now look at a new process
9 in management that would address these issues that are being
10 raised by the Councils.

11
12 MS. PHILLIPS: And so Bill, you're saying we
13 should find that other process?

14
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah.

16
17 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

18
19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah. See, because if
20 we're going to do something to avoid .804 that isn't listed
21 in the language that we got before us now, we're amending
22 Title in an unofficial back door approach in doing so, and I
23 don't think that will serve us well.

24
25 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you.

26
27 MR. VALE: Mr. Chairman.

28
29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: John.

30
31 MR. VALE: Yeah, Bill, I'm trying to
32 understand what it is you're saying here and I guess I have a
33 question for you.

34
35 With your viewpoint in mind, does that mean then --
36 are you saying that all rural residents are qualified
37 subsistence users and that you don't really want to get into
38 C&T until there's a shortage and then you have to determine
39 between those subsistence users who's qualified based on C&T?

40
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Part of that's true, yes.
42 .801, says, yes, we protect all eligible users, and that's
43 defined in .801. The reference it makes to C&Ts is in .803.

44
45 Okay, it says, definitions of Section .803. As used
46 in this Act, the term, subsistence uses means, the customary
47 and traditional uses of rural residents of wild renewable
48 resources for direct personal or family consumption as food,
49 shelter, fuel, clothing, tools or transportation for the

50 making and selling of handicap articles out of non-edible by-

00159

1 products of fish and wildlife, resources taken for personal
2 or family consumption for barter or sharing for personal or
3 family consumption for customary trade. The purpose of this
4 section the term family means, all persons related by blood,
5 marriage, adoption or any person living within a household on
6 a permanent basis. And number 2, barter means, the exchange
7 of fish and wildlife or their parts taken for subsistence
8 uses, A, for other fish and game or their parts or B, for
9 other food or for non-edible items other than money if the
10 exchange is limited in a non-commercial nature.

11

12 It just says here, the term, subsistence uses, means
13 the customary and traditional uses.

14

15 It's used to define subsistence users. It's an
16 adjective. And it was presented to the Board to be applied
17 as a noun. That's an amendment to ANILCA and I don't think
18 it's going to go very far.

19

20 MR. VALE: So do all rural residents then --
21 are all rural residents qualified.....

22

23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yes.

24

25 MR. VALE:subsistence users?

26

27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: According to that. By zip
28 code, that's what the State says, wherever you live you're an
29 eligible user.

30

31 MR. VALE: So then all rural residents would
32 have customary and traditional use of all species in all
33 rural areas?

34

35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's what it says. Title
36 VIII is not Indian Law. It's a rural priority law, that's my
37 reading. Anybody else.

38

39 MS. McCONNELL: Mr. Chairman.

40

41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yes, Mim.

42

43 MS. McCONNELL: Wasn't C&T to help determine
44 as in .804, number 1 it says customary and direct dependence
45 upon the populations as the mainstay of livelihood, you know,
46 local residency, availability of alternative resources; there
47 seems to me there would need to be something in place that
48 helps you determine whether or not that rural resident fits
49 that. And it seems to me C&T is there to help determine

50 that.

00160

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: How do you see it that way
2 when it says, subsistence use means the customary and
3 traditional, which is C&T. Subsistence means the C&T uses of
4 rural Alaska's wild renewable resources. That's what it says
5 here. It's only used in that one expression.
6

7 MS. McCONNELL: Well, for example, the deer
8 in Southeast Alaska, a rural resident up north would not have
9 customary and direct dependence upon those populations for
10 their mainstay of their livelihood, so they would not have --
11 they don't have the right to come down and eat the deer when
12 there's one -- perhaps that population has reached the point
13 where the take needs to be restricted.
14

15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Where do you get that from?
16

17 MS. McCONNELL: I'm just projecting to the
18 future what would happen if the population dropped.
19

20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You're amending Title VIII
21 is what you're doing.
22

23 MS. McCONNELL: No, I'm trying to figure out
24 how they would apply it.
25

26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, that's what we're
27 trying to do.
28

29 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah.
30

31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: And that's why I say it's
32 not the proper application. I'm saying.....
33

34 MS. McCONNELL: You could call it the -- use
35 the same thing but call it something else?
36

37 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, yeah. And then
38 again, I don't know how you could do that without running
39 into an attempt to amend Title VIII. Because we would be
40 adding language that isn't there.
41

42 MS. McCONNELL: So do you think that the
43 people up north, rural residents have the right to come down
44 and eat deer down here?
45

46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah. I go up there and
47 eat hamburgers. Nothing in Title VIII has my ink marks on
48 it.
49

MS. McCONNELL: So in other words, in past

00161

1 history, if a group of people -- if the populations that they
2 depended on somehow went through a crises and dropped and
3 there wasn't enough food to eat, they would go someplace else
4 until they found food to eat. So any food, anywhere in
5 Alaska is available for a rural resident to subsist on so
6 that they can stay alive.

7

8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I would think so.

9

10 MS. McCONNELL: And so that's why you say,
11 don't restrict this?

12

13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yes.

14

15 MS. McCONNELL: Okay.

16

17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You know, why fill your
18 pantry and put a lock on it so you can't get to it.

19

20 MS. McCONNELL: Uh-huh.

21

22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Anybody else?

23

24 MR. SORUM: Well.....

25

26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, what?

27

28 MR. SORUM: I think the last meeting, Mim,
29 this is exactly the drill that we went through.

30

31 MS. McCONNELL: Uh-huh.

32

33 MR. SORUM: And I think that's the reason I
34 got the impression that we thought .804 was a better
35 mechanism because I was doing the same thing. When you read
36 ANILCA it's not a Native law, it's a rural resident law. And
37 I don't -- that's where I was saying before at the last
38 meeting, I thought the C&Ts could be detrimental to users
39 because we're not talking about use in a time of shortage,
40 we're just talking about use. And that's where I think maybe
41 if there is a shortage and you start using the provisions of
42 .804, then that's maybe the time to use .804 and consider the
43 other factors. But I don't think that's necessary until, you
44 know, we come to that point. You know, if they want to
45 manage the resource in a different way, they can, but I don't
46 think we want to use C&Ts to blanket all users if there isn't
47 a shortage.

48

49 MS. McCONNELL: So in other words, keep it so

50 that everyone has C&T use for all populations, and if you

00162

1 want to restrict during times of shortage.....

2

3 MR. SORUM: There's a mechanism.....

4

5 MS. McCONNELL:find some other
6 mechanism to do it other than customary and traditional use?

7

8 MR. SORUM: Well, you know, the mechanism's
9 already in place with .804. So we don't have to reinvent the
10 wheel, it's there.

11

12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: See, C&T is used.....

13

14 MS. McCONNELL: It doesn't really restrict.

15

16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS:it uses a descriptive
17 manner. The eight factors, converting it to a factor puts a
18 whole new different light on it and we don't know where the
19 switch to that light is.

20

21 MS. McCONNELL: Okay. So just the local
22 residency line would fit -- that would help restrict?

23

24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: What do you mean.....

25

26 MS. McCONNELL: Okay.

27

28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS:by local residency
29 line?

30

31 MS. McCONNELL: That's number 2 under .804.
32 There's the three criteria and local residency is number 2.

33

34 MR. SORUM: That's only if there's a
35 shortage.

36

37 MS. McCONNELL: Right, if there's a shortage.

38

39 MR. SORUM: You have to go to .801, that's
40 where you start.

41

42 MS. McCONNELL: So if it ain't broke don't
43 fix it?

44

45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I think -- Rachel, was this
46 intended to be informative or did you want -- do you want
47 Southeast to bale out the entire system with.....

48

49 MS. MASON: This was meant to be informative.

00163

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: FYI.

2
3 MS. McCONNELL: Hopefully that would work
4 both ways.

5
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: FYI for Y2K. John.

7
8 MR. VALE: Yeah, thanks. I spent some time
9 thinking about this since our last meeting. And you know, we
10 passed this motion up here about C&T, I'm not quite sure we
11 did it -- well, I guess we felt we needed to do something.
12 But you know, it seemed, based on the discussion, some of the
13 things that Herman said about communities being closely
14 related, family wise here in Southeast, and some of the
15 things Bill was saying about the use of C&T, you know, I kind
16 of reconsidered my position on this item that we -- you know,
17 this motion that we passed up here.

18
19 You know, I -- so my feeling was that this ought not
20 to be a firm policy for our Council. I do think it's
21 something that is workable in this present structure that
22 we're dealing with, but I don't believe it should be a firm
23 policy that future Councils should try to adhere to. I think
24 that part of what Title VIII was about was bringing in local
25 input through advisory committees and this Council, and I
26 think there's recognition that subsistence would evolve. And
27 so I think in the future if this Council does its business,
28 how C&T is used is going to evolve as well and that door
29 should be open for this Council to go any direction that it
30 would choose to go on it.

31
32 So I kind of wanted to say that. And I -- so I'm
33 finished with that statement.

34
35 I guess I do disagree that all rural residents are
36 qualified subsistence users of all species. To me, when you
37 look at subsistence uses, it's defined as customary and
38 traditional uses. In order for a community, a region, an
39 area, I think at some point in the process they have to
40 demonstrate that they do have customary and traditional uses,
41 and that process, at least, has to be gone through once.
42 And, you know, I don't believe the folks in Petersburg
43 customary and traditionally used king salmon in the Situk
44 River, I don't think that's the case. And you can talk about
45 other species and make other examples like that, and so I
46 think at some point you do have to consider customary and
47 traditional uses, you know, in whatever the subject is you're
48 talking about.

49

So you know, I think we should be allowed to evolve

00164

1 and move in the direction that this body feels is
2 appropriate, we shouldn't be held hard and fast to that. But
3 I don't think that all rural residents are qualified for all
4 species. I think at some point we need to make
5 determinations in there about that, and maybe they could be
6 done on communities, maybe on areas, whatever's appropriate
7 for that particular area, region, and whatever direction
8 Council wants to go, that's the way I think we should do
9 things.

10
11 So that's kind of where my thinking has gone on this
12 one.

13
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, I'm not saying that I
15 agree with every word in here, but when I accepted to serve
16 on this Council, I came aboard believing the people that are
17 responsible for managing this, that I would represent the
18 material they gave before us in the language that it's
19 written in. And this does not make any separation. We can
20 have our disagreements, we can have our biases, but again,
21 .801 says, the continuation of opportunity for subsistence
22 uses by rural residents of Alaska, including both Natives and
23 non-Natives on the public lands and by Alaska Natives on
24 Native lands essential. It doesn't say within a certain
25 municipal boundary or a certain game management unit or
26 anything like that. It says -- and then defining -- the
27 defining use here are rural residents. It doesn't elaborate
28 on that. And for us to elaborate on that would be an
29 amendment to the existing language. I don't think we can do
30 that.

31
32 MR. VALE: Well, it says subsistence uses in
33 .801 and then it defines subsistence uses as customary and
34 traditional uses. So at some point, you have to look at
35 those customary and traditional uses and apply them wherever
36 it is you're talking about, and it can be regionally, I
37 think, it can be done by community. I think it's all going
38 to depend on the specific issue or subject that's in front of
39 the body here.

40
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So you're saying that
42 there's a built-in conflict between .801 and .803?

43
44 MR. VALE: No, I don't think it's a conflict.
45 To be honest with you, I think subsistence uses are defined
46 as customary and traditional uses.

47
48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, it doesn't define
49 that, it says means customary and traditional uses. So.....

00165

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Under the headings,
2 definition.

3
4 MR. VALE: Means, customary and traditional
5 uses, is that the same thing?

6
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah.

8
9 MR. VALE: So we're talking about customary
10 and traditional uses and it can be regionally -- listening
11 like I said -- I think Herman said, about the relationships
12 between the communities in Southeast, and maybe this body at
13 some point will want to say all rural communities in
14 Southeast are qualified subsistence users. To me, though, I
15 think to get there you need to look at all the communities to
16 see if they are qualified. If you make that determination
17 then, fine, they all are qualified.

18
19 But subsistence uses are customary and traditional
20 uses.

21
22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, right now, the
23 discussion as we're at now trying to find something to do
24 C&Ts is becoming a decisive factor more than a contributing
25 factor. And a decisive factor is something that has never
26 existed in the subsistence community before.

27
28 MR. VALE: Uh-huh.

29
30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: And for us to embrace
31 something like that and to introduce a factor such as that
32 would be inconsistent and would ultimately lead to the demise
33 of subsistence uses in Alaska.

34
35 MR. VALE: Okay. I do believe, though, that,
36 you know, if that's the wishes of this body to move that
37 direction and make those determinations for Southeast, you
38 know, that's fine. I think we should have the flexibility to
39 move that direction.

40
41 But.....

42
43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: But how can we move in any
44 direction if we don't how the Board's going to receive it.

45
46 MR. VALE: Well, that's all true. And I very
47 much appreciated your comments that we needed more direction
48 from the Board as to how they want to use C&T or what
49 thinking they have. I think that's very important and I

50 fully agree with that and certainly appreciated those

00166

1 comments because I think that is important.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We have a Board member here
4 that maybe can enlighten us? Where are you? He's gone?

5

6 MR. GEORGE: Mr. Chairman.

7

8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Gabe.

9

10 MR. GEORGE: Well, I was around when the
11 eight criteria came about and all, and I think you're
12 absolutely right in terms of its being a decisive measure of
13 placing the burden of proof on the subsistence user, you
14 know. I think that we've fallen into that trap, and I think
15 the Board has fallen into that trap, and I think it's
16 splitting up what's going on in Alaska.

17

18 You're right in terms of the subsistence user -- or
19 Congress' intent was to protect a way of life, and they
20 didn't define who -- you know, who's life or which way of
21 life that they wanted to protect and they made it a general
22 blanket rule with the intent of protecting, you know, Alaska
23 Native's way of life and people who come to Alaska and live
24 off the land's way of life.

25

26 The problem with C&T is, again, it places the burden
27 of proof on the communities, the individuals, and if they or
28 we cannot determine that they have C&T on a resource, then we
29 make somebody who is a customary and traditional user of the
30 resource a criminal, you know, a law breaker, you know. So I
31 agree that the eight criteria, I think is something that I
32 don't think should be in place and the burden of proof of,
33 you know, say, Angoon, to determine whether they go up to
34 Haines and get sheep wool for weaving or for other uses that
35 they've done in the past, be placed on the people in Angoon.
36 Now, there may be only one or two people in Angoon that have
37 done it in the past. Certainly when we went through our
38 eight criteria for species in areas, they found that there's
39 some information -- written information, historical documents
40 from Sitka, from Kake, from other places or they took
41 somebody's word that, you know, they use this area.

42

43 So it was a matter of drawing boundary lines, and I
44 think drawing boundary lines is -- you know, has been and
45 probably always will be a tool that separates people and uses
46 of a resource. And I don't know when, exactly, those
47 boundaries and where they should be should come in effect.

48

49 I know that when we talked about the deer use in this

50 area, in the Sitka/Angoon area, that there was boundary lines

00167

1 drawn and I think that, you know, without consulting both --
2 without both sides coming together, and I don't mean, you
3 know, the political ends, you know that people come together
4 and say, well, we're going to cut -- you, from Angoon, can
5 only go to Morris Reef, you know, and that's where your
6 boundary line is and Sitka's going to take the rest and close
7 it.

8
9 You know, whereas if you look at Goldschmidt and Haas
10 and other information, you know, there is other information
11 that says that other people -- you know, or Angoon people
12 extended out to Cape Edgecumbe and all and around, but -- but
13 the point is that, you know, when you exclude -- put up
14 boundary lines or you put up something that's going to pit
15 one community against another or family against family, then
16 I think we're looking at problems down the line.

17
18 That's why I was up in the air in terms of, you know,
19 adopting that -- I thought it was better than before, our
20 C&Ts and our resolution motion to identify all species used
21 in an area, and at least lifted that burden of proof from a
22 community so that people won't be criminals by using what
23 they always used.

24
25 Now, to determine importance in other things, I don't
26 think we're there either. I know when I was growing up my
27 dad told me to eat a little bit of everything on the beach in
28 case I ever got stuck somewhere, that I wouldn't starve to
29 death. You know, I had uncles that were shipwrecked or stuck
30 somewhere and they survived because they ate a little bit of
31 everything and was able to survive the winter and they were
32 able to live off the land. It's not a true subsistence, but
33 that's what people want to call it, a true subsistence way of
34 life because their whole life depended upon it. But their
35 whole life depended upon it because they learned how to
36 survive, you know. And you know, a lot of the stuff that we
37 don't use, you know, we will use sometime and a lot of things
38 that -- you know, well, the moose proposal is a good example.
39 Somebody said it's not customary and traditional use of the
40 area. And you know, which I assume you were offended by
41 because people in the area -- when a moose comes in, won't
42 say, well, we're not going to use it because we never used it
43 before; well, that's not customary and traditional. That's
44 what we're imposing as customary and traditional by
45 definition on the area. And I think that's what this C&T is
46 doing to people in Southeast and people in Alaska, and I
47 don't think it's right.

48
49 I think it was one person's way of addressing a state

50 of -- Board of Fish problem -- was it Board of Fish or Board

00168

1 of Game -- and tried to get them out of a hole where they
2 were stuck. So the anthropologists sat down and said,
3 customary and traditional, what is that, well, I went to
4 school, it's this and this, long-term use, et cetera, and
5 this is how we look at indigenous people of an area and this
6 is, you know, these are the things that they exhibit and
7 therefore, these are what we're going to use. And that was
8 his determination of what customary and traditional was by
9 making it like our Chairman says, now, a description of a
10 people versus how people actually lived, he wasn't there, and
11 he still isn't there and I don't think we're there by
12 embracing the eight criteria.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 MS. McCONNELL: Mr. Chairman.

17

18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mim -- Rachel.

19

20 MS. McCONNELL: Rachel can respond first.

21

22 MS. MASON: I had a comment that was intended
23 to stimulate discussion, which I don't think we need. I'll
24 defer to Mim.

25

26 MS. McCONNELL: Okay, well, Lonnie was just
27 pointing something out to me here, and I thought I would
28 bring this up. This was a document that Dave passed out
29 yesterday, it's the regulations for the fisheries that would
30 be adopted October 1st, '99. And on Page 1292, it's -- you
31 know, basically it's the same -- I think it's all the same
32 regulations that we're using for game issues. But it, you
33 know, lists the customary and traditional use determination
34 process, you know, the eight criteria, and Section .17,
35 determining priorities for subsistence uses among rural
36 Alaska residents. It talks about whenever it's necessary to
37 restrict the subsistence taking of fish and wildlife, et
38 cetera.

39

40 What I was suggesting is that this discussion that
41 we've had here today be considered as comments on this
42 proposed rule so that, you know, we're not making any vote or
43 anything but I would like the powers that be read our
44 comments when they're making any changes to this proposed
45 rule.

46

47 Anyway, I don't know if they would anyway or not, but
48 I just thought I'd make it official that they should pay
49 attention to what we've been saying here. I think it's

50 important.

00169

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Rachel, do yo have a way of
2 extracting this part of the recording from Salena's --
3 however she records it.

4
5 MS. MASON: Yes.

6
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You've got that technology,
8 uh?

9
10 MS. MASON: Well, I know how to read believe
11 it or not.

12
13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Who.

14
15 MR. ANDERSON: Wonders never cease.

16
17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We're in better shape than
18 I thought. Let's take a two minute break.

19
20 (Off record - 10:10 a.m.)

21
22 (On record - 10:22 a.m.)

23
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mim. Is Mim here?

25
26 MS. MASON: She's still in there.

27
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Did you have further
29 comments?

30
31 MS. MASON: I just wanted to ask what you
32 would like me to do with the transcript once I've got it from
33 Salena.

34
35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, since we have no
36 further direction from the Board, it was suggested at our
37 last meeting that we send something else back to the
38 Councils. That something else has not been formulated yet.
39 And I think in the future the Councils will be getting
40 another type of direction from the Board. But if that
41 direction from the Board isn't definitive enough for us to
42 intelligently respond, then I think no response is better
43 than a stab at something that we don't know what we're doing.

44
45 So sometimes that's the only way to get a point
46 across. It's kind of like being in trouble at home.

47
48 MS. MASON: Yeah.

49

CHAIRMAN THOMAS: If you don't get an answer

00170

1 from your spouse, you know you asked the wrong question. So
2 that's kind of how it works here.

3

4 Where were you when I called, I called you for hours
5 ago.

6

7 Mim.

8

9 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah, I just wanted to -- I
10 got a little clarification from Ida and Rachel there during
11 the break and I've -- these regulations were adopted January
12 8th or whatever the date was and I screwed up on that. But
13 it was pointed out that these comments that we've been having
14 and sharing and stuff, those could be submitted to the
15 Subsistence Management for while they're discussing the
16 actual Fisheries Management after June 1st, assuming that
17 they actually -- you know, the Legislature doesn't do
18 anything and they start actually doing some planning. And it
19 sounds like it would be a good time for them to have copies
20 of our comments from our minutes for them to read over.

21

22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I agree.

23

24 MS. McCONNELL: So I would make that
25 recommendation that those be sent to whoever the people are
26 that need to see it.

27

28 MR. VALE: That's clear.

29

30 MS. MASON: Yeah, whoever that is.

31

32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, let's.....

33

34 MS. MASON: How about if I send them to you
35 guys first and then.....

36

37 MS. McCONNELL: They need to be read by --
38 reviewed by -- heard by, the people that are planning the
39 Fisheries regulations so that when the Federal government
40 takes over the fisheries then they've heard what we've had to
41 say about subsistence priority.

42

43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: A motion is in order.....

44

45 MS. McCONNELL: I move.

46

47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS:to present the Board
48 with the excerpts, with the total content, of the discussion
49 we just had on C&Ts to present to the Board for their

50 information.

00171

1 MS. McCONNELL: So moved.

2
3 MR. ANDERSON: I second, Mim.

4
5 MS. McCONNELL: Question.

6
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Question's been called.
8 All those favor say aye.

9
10 IN UNISON: Aye.

11
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Those opposed same sign.

13
14 (No opposing responses)

15
16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The Chair will not tolerate
17 anymore controversy on any further agenda items.

18
19 MS. PHILLIPS: I guess we better leave.

20
21 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

22
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

24
25 MR. ANDERSON: We can close up and go home
26 then.

27
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's controversial.

29
30 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to know
31 if we could have any say in the rules and regulations of the
32 fisheries that are coming up? Because this has been our
33 concern all these years under the State program, under the
34 State regulations, and I would like to know if all of our
35 Regional Councils can have any say and if not, we should. I
36 believe we should have a say on how our regulations go for
37 fisheries.

38
39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Let me see if I understand
40 something from what I heard yesterday. To begin with -- to
41 begin with. Since this is so new and the window of
42 opportunity for that is so narrow, that initially, the
43 Federal Management is going to adopt existing State
44 regulations as Federal regulations; is that my understanding?
45 And then if any considerations for the language of those
46 regulations are presented at later dates, that we'll use the
47 same process of proposal process to make those amendments or
48 changes to any given regulation?

49

MR. BOS: That's correct, Mr. Chairman. You

00172

1 had a previous opportunity to review a proposed rule last
2 year, and all of the Councils submitted comments and
3 suggestions for changes. Some of those were incorporated
4 into the final rule. But many of those specific changes that
5 Councils were requesting involved changes in seasons and bag
6 limits or types of proposed changes that would be considered
7 under the normal regulatory process, and those actions were
8 not incorporated into the final rule but were deferred and
9 would be taken up when the process opens up to considerations
10 of proposals.

11
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So the answer to Marilyn's
13 question would be yes?

14
15 MR. BOS: Yes.

16
17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

18
19 MS. WILSON: Okay.

20
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Nominations for
22 Council membership, who's handling that, Dave?

23
24 MR. JOHNSON: Yes. There are nomination
25 forms on the back of the table in the back. March 26th is
26 the deadline for people to either reapply if you're seeking
27 reappointment or for new applications to come in.

28
29 If you'll turn to Section P in your booklet, the
30 process is pretty well defined. There will be a panel that
31 will review the applicants following the closing on March
32 26th, myself, Cal Casipit and Jim Capra are the three
33 panelists for the Southeast Region. And then our information
34 will go back to the Fish and Wildlife Service and eventually
35 on up to the Staff Committee and then on to Washington D.C.

36
37 Any questions about that? Dolly.

38
39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

40
41 MS. GARZA: Two questions, one first to this
42 Council, is there anyone other than Gabriel that does not
43 intend to resubmit their name? I ask that out of curiosity
44 -- oh, how dare you?

45
46 MR. VALE: I'm stepping down.

47
48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We cannot direct that, it's
49 Staff.

00173

1 MS. GARZA: Okay. And then the second
2 question is one of administration. How will we deal with the
3 vacated seat?
4

5 MR. JOHNSON: It's my understanding that the
6 resignation of Jeff Nickerson, there will be just an
7 additional position that will be added along with the other
8 positions that are seeking reappointment or new applications
9 that are highlighted in the bold print. So to say it another
10 way, there will be five seats that will be filled this year
11 instead of four.
12

13 Marilyn, did you -- or Mr. Chairman.
14

15 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman.
16

17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.
18

19 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask
20 Dave, I see alternate members, what does that mean, I've
21 never heard of it?
22

23 MR. JOHNSON: The different Councils across
24 the state have different ways of handling resignations
25 or.....
26

27 MS. MASON: Absences.
28

29 MR. JOHNSON: If something happens and they
30 need to have a position filled, they have a way of
31 identifying alternates that could fill in for them. That has
32 not been the case, to my understanding, in Southeast, you
33 haven't adopted that process here.
34

35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I thought that was an
36 administrative design. I didn't know we had that latitude.
37 But we can sure make hay with that one. We'll have all kinds
38 of Alter-Natives around here.
39

40 MR. JOHNSON: Fred, do you want to comment
41 further on that one?
42

43 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman.
44

45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Fred.
46

47 MR. CLARK: The Council might remember that,
48 I think it was -- it was either two or three years ago, the
49 Council had the opportunity to comment about whether you

50 wanted to have alternates or not and the Council voted

00174

1 unanimously not to have alternates because you figured that
2 you could handle the kit and caboodle by yourselves.

3
4 MS. PHILLIPS: We could get a quorum.

5
6 MR. CLARK: You could get a quorum and the
7 quorum could handle it because every -- my recollection is
8 that the rationale was that everybody on the Council comes
9 with local knowledge but represents the entire region, so as
10 long as you have a quorum, that the Council, even as a
11 partial Council, could do the business of the region.

12
13 MS. GARZA: Another point, too, at the time I
14 remember, is that we should always make the meetings.

15
16 MS. McCONNELL: What?

17
18 MR. CLARK: That you should always make the
19 meetings.

20
21 MS. McCONNELL: I think also another point we
22 had raised was continuity, having the same people.

23
24 MR. CLARK: And another point was that if
25 someone from a community couldn't make it to the meeting,
26 it's very unlikely that somebody else could make it from that
27 community as well. Because it's usually weather is the
28 reason that people don't make it.

29
30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, I've had second
31 thoughts. I think our standards are too high. What was
32 that?

33
34 MR. VALE: Earthquake.

35
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, we don't need to
37 Alter-Natives around here so what else. So what else, Dave?

38
39 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, also later on as
40 we get further along in the fisheries planning process, I'm
41 sure the Council will have opportunity to provide input to
42 that cycle, whatever that will be, and in terms of meetings
43 and how that will effect the existing structure and calendar
44 or could have that effect. So there will be other
45 opportunities for the Council to provide input to that as we
46 get further down that road.

47
48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No problem. Anything else?

49

00175

1 MR. JOHNSON: Not on that particular item,
2 Mr. Chairman.

3
4 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, Dave, for the
5 eloquent, qualified, informed, emotional process. Agency
6 reports. Agency concerns, issues relating to subsistence
7 uses and wildlife resources and status of wildlife population
8 under Tab Q (A). Do we have anybody from tribal councils,
9 regional village corporations, municipalities or, et cetera?

10
11 That covers a wide area of geography there.

12
13 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chair.

14
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

16
17 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I know that Sitka
18 Tribe intended to be here, and I think they were operating
19 under the 11:00 o'clock or end of the day public testimony
20 time frame. But it's my understanding that there will be at
21 least two tribal members here testifying on two different
22 subjects. So they will be showing up sometime.

23
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, that was Sitka's
25 report, anybody else?

26
27 Okay. Department. Mike.

28
29 MR. TUREK: I'm Mike Turek from the Alaska
30 Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence. And
31 I'd like to do a brief report on some work we have planned on
32 Prince of Wales Island for later this year. And then also
33 take you through some of the findings from last year's work
34 on our household harvest surveys in Craig, Klawock and
35 Hydaburg.

36
37 I'll start off by discussing briefly the work we're
38 planning on doing. We were planning on doing this year but
39 we may now do it this next year due to funding -- lack of
40 funding for that project coming through in time, and that's a
41 deer harvest assessment in Ketchikan, Craig and Klawock.
42 What we'd like to do is do a random survey in those three
43 communities asking people about their deer hunting on Prince
44 of Wales Island. And one reason why we wanted to do that was
45 because the household harvest surveys that we did last year
46 in Craig and Klawock and Hydaburg, particularly Craig and
47 Klawock, the number of deer that our estimate came up with
48 was quite a bit higher than what the Department's estimate is
49 when they do the deer ticket return survey.

00176

1 And we'd like to do that in Ketchikan to see if
2 there's that much of a difference between one of our surveys
3 and the Department's deer ticket survey. The deer ticket
4 surveys, the Department has always known that the smaller
5 rural communities, we aren't getting very good return on
6 those so the estimates aren't very good. But we thought that
7 in the larger communities, particularly Sitka, Ketchikan and
8 Juneau we were getting a pretty good return, pretty good
9 estimate of how many deer were being taken.

10
11 Two years ago when we did our household harvest
12 survey in Sitka our deer estimate was quite a bit higher than
13 what the Department had from their deer tickets. So that led
14 us to wonder if we are actually getting a very good number
15 for these larger communities, and so that's why we'd like to
16 do this type of survey in Ketchikan and see just how many
17 deer, from our estimates, from our survey, are coming out of
18 Ketch -- are being harvested in Ketchikan and how many of
19 those are coming from Prince of Wales Island. And we were
20 originally planning on actually be doing that work right now
21 but this is being funded by the Forest Service and the
22 funding hasn't come through yet. So now we're thinking of
23 waiting until this next year, for the 1999/2000 deer season
24 to do that survey then because it's getting a little bit late
25 for that right now.

26
27 But we are still planning on doing household harvest
28 surveys on the remainder of the communities on Prince of
29 Wales Island this year. And we're hoping to get started on
30 that in April. And that will also include the questions on
31 deer. And that's what's planned for this year.

32
33 What I'd like to do now is I'd like to go up to the
34 overheads. I have some overheads. And discuss some of the
35 things that we found last year from our survey work in Craig,
36 Klawock and Hydaburg, so I'll move up there now and do that.

37
38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Is our lighting
39 manager still here? Thank you.

40
41 MR. TUREK: Is this on?

42
43 COURT REPORTER: Yes.

44
45 MR. TUREK: Can you hear me?

46
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Loud and clear.

48
49 MR. TUREK: Last year the three communities

50 we surveyed on Prince of Wales Island were Craig, Klawock and

00177

1 Hydaburg. And those three communities have grown quite a bit
2 as has the rest of the island in the last 20 years. So this
3 is a -- this is a population on Prince of Wales Island from
4 1960 to 1998. So you can see the population has really
5 skyrocketed since about 1988, 1990, it really started taking
6 off.

7
8 MS. GARZA: Mike, it's out of focus.

9
10 MS. WILSON: Oh, no wonder I couldn't see it.

11
12 MR. TUREK: Is that better?

13
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It looked good to me.

15
16 MR. TUREK: So in 1990 -- well, in 1960 it
17 was only -- it was less than a thousand people on Prince of
18 Wales Island. By 1990 there was close to 5,000, and today
19 there's just about 5,000. And all that in-migration was
20 essentially from logging, from the development of logging.
21 So the island has changed drastically, human population wise.
22 So that's led to increased harvest.

23
24 All of these communities on Prince of Wales Island
25 are subsistence communities and they're all active
26 harvesters. Subsistence is still very important on Prince of
27 Wales Island. It's something that continues to occur. And
28 we found -- that's what we found in our surveys. We do have
29 the data from '88 from the TRUCS work that we compared last
30 years surveys with and what that's showing is that in those
31 three communities, Craig, Klawock and Hydaburg, subsistence
32 resource is still very important.

33
34 What we did is we did random surveys in those three
35 communities and Craig, as we -- has 608 households, we
36 surveyed 173, which was about 28 percent of the community and
37 then we expand that to the complete community. The larger
38 communities, we can't survey everybody so we do a random
39 selection of households. Hydaburg 131 households, we did 51
40 households there, that's about -- just a little under 40
41 percent. And Klawock, there's 303 households and we did a
42 random selections of 106 households for about 35 percent.
43 Totaling about 32 percent of the households of the three
44 communities we surveyed.

45
46 About 80 percent of the population of Klawock and
47 Hydaburg attempted to hunt, fish or gather resources. The
48 population involved hunting, fishing or gathering ranged from
49 78 percent in Craig to 80 percent in Klawock. So that means

50 that the households that we spoke to between 78 and 80

00178

1 percent said that they were harvesting. Except in Craig,
2 slightly higher percentages were involved in the processing
3 of game, fish and plants than there was in harvesting. There
4 is also quite a bit of exchange, and particularly in the
5 Native communities -- in the Native communities there's a lot
6 of exchange of subsistence resources.

7
8 I'll go to deer harvest now. Starting with Craig,
9 the 1997/98 deer season, there was a total of about 928 deer,
10 an estimate of 928 deer taken by Craig. And these are the
11 months. So 214, the different colors, the male is.....

12
13 MS. WILSON: Could you get the pointer?

14
15 MR. TUREK: I don't know if I have one.

16
17 MS. WILSON: It would make it easier.

18
19 MR. TUREK: Does someone have a pointer?

20
21 MS. PHILLIPS: Robert does.

22
23 MS. MASON: You have to turn off that other
24 light, too.

25
26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I'll point.

27
28 MR. TUREK: Oh, cool. So this is male.

29
30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Holy smokes.

31
32 MS. McCONNELL: Man.

33
34 MS. RUDOLPH: Ooh.

35
36 MR. TUREK: So I would call that red. That's
37 the closest color that I can identify there is red, and the
38 female is blue.

39
40 So in August in Craig, we got an estimate of about
41 214 male deer taken. September 176. And October 239 males
42 and 21 females. November 214 males, seven females. December
43 it drops way down to about 25 males and seven females. And
44 then unknown is unknown month and these are male and people
45 didn't know what month -- people couldn't -- didn't remember
46 what month they got them so about 60. And so the total is 35
47 females are taken by Craig and about 928 females -- excuse
48 me, males.

49

And this is Klawock. A similar harvest pattern in

00179

1 Klawock, August 140 males. September 117 males and 11
2 females. October 88 males and about six females. In
3 November 97 males and about 14 females. About three females
4 in December and about three in January. With a total of
5 about 463 males and 40 females. Twenty males, unknown month
6 and about three unknown females. So it's a real similar
7 pattern to Craig.

8
9 MS. PHILLIPS: Those are based on the
10 household surveys?

11
12 MR. TUREK: Right. Right.

13
14 MS. GARZA: So they took nearly the same
15 number of deer even though Craig is much larger than Klawock?

16
17 MR. TUREK: Craig took quite a bit -- about
18 twice as much. Craig took 900 and let's see.....

19
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Klawock took 400.

21
22 MR. TUREK:927 and then Klawock took
23 about 463.

24
25 And this is Hydaburg, a much smaller community and
26 you'll notice a different hunting pattern here. In August
27 25, 26 animals males and five females. September 23 males.
28 October 23 males. November it goes up to about 49 males and
29 about three females. In December 23 males and about 13
30 females. And 10 males taken unknown months. Total of 154
31 males and 20.5 females.

32
33 Then we also asked some opinion questions of all the
34 deer hunting households and these are questions that we
35 developed from the earlier work that we did in the fall when
36 we interviewed key respondents. So one of the questions we
37 asked is, what has the deer population done in the last five
38 years? And in Craig, 70 percent of the people said that it
39 had declined. This is -- the yellow has declined, red has
40 increased and the blue is stable. So 70 percent of the
41 people in Craig believe that deer population had declined in
42 the last five years. About 26 percent thought it was stable.
43 And about four percent had thought it had increased.

44
45 In Hydaburg, 62 -- 63 percent of the people thought
46 that -- that we interviewed thought that the population of
47 deer had declined and about 38 percent thought that that it
48 was stable. In Klawock, 75 percent thought that the deer
49 population had declined 23 percent thought it was stable, and

50 1.6 percent thought it increased.

00180

1 And then a total of all three communities that we
2 surveyed, about 71 percent thought that the deer population
3 had declined on Prince of Wales Island in the last five
4 years, and 26 percent thought that it was stable and about
5 three percent thought it had increased.

6
7 And this is deer hunting, time and effort over the
8 last four -- five years. We asked deer hunters if they were
9 spending less, that's the yellow, the same amount of time or
10 more time hunting deer in the last five years on Prince of
11 Wales Island. And hunters in Craig, 72 percent said they
12 were spending more time, about 24 percent said it was just
13 about the same and four percent said they were spending less
14 time, less effort hunting deer.

15
16 Hydaburg, about 81 percent said they were using more
17 time and effort to hunt deer in the last five years. And 19
18 percent said it was about the same.

19
20 Klawock, about 67 percent said they were using was
21 more time and effort for their hunting, and about 29 percent
22 was the same and about five percent less.

23
24 And for the total for the three communities, 71 --
25 about 72 percent of the hunters thought that they had to
26 spend more time and effort in the last five years to get
27 their deer. About 25 percent said it was the same. And
28 about four percent said they were spending less -- they had
29 spent less to get their deer.

30
31 And this question, we asked the impact of Ketchikan
32 and non-POW hunters on Prince of Wales Island hunters deer
33 hunting. And the yellow, that's positive, that means that
34 there was a positive impact. No impact was red. And the
35 blue is a negative impact.

36
37 Craig, 76 percent of the hunters said that the impact
38 from Ketchikan and non-POW hunters was having a negative
39 impact on their deer hunting. About 18 percent said no
40 impact. And 6.3 percent said it had a positive impact.

41
42 Hydaburg, almost 93 percent of the deer hunting
43 households said that Ketchikan and non-POW hunters were
44 having a negative impact on their hunting. And about seven
45 percent said no impact.

46
47 Klawock, 82 percent said that the Ketchikan and non-
48 POW hunters were having a negative impact on their hunting.
49 About 15 percent said no impact. And 1.6 percent said it was

50 -- there was a positive impact.

00181

1 And overall in the three communities, about 81
2 percent of the hunters said that the non-POW hunters were
3 having a negative impact on their hunting. And about 15
4 percent said it was -- there was no impact.

5
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: What does a positive impact
7 represent?

8
9 MR. TUREK: You know, that came up sort of a
10 couple people that had businesses or worked for businesses
11 that relied on off-island hunters.

12
13 MS. McCONNELL: Um.

14
15 MR. TUREK: And that's pretty much where that
16 came up. So that wasn't.....

17
18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So that's not necessarily a
19 100 percent representative of subsistence use?

20
21 MR. TUREK: Right. Right.

22
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: This is general use?

24
25 MR. TUREK: Exactly.

26
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

28
29 MR. TUREK: We didn't clarify -- it wasn't
30 clarified in the question.

31
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

33
34 MR. TUREK: Yeah, so it was like -- they
35 weren't saying, you know, if you have more people here it
36 improves our subsistence chances, like nobody said that.

37
38 And this is a question we asked their opinion, the
39 Federal doe hunt.

40
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: One more question if I may,
42 and I apologize for interrupting. With regards to impact,
43 the positive impact, what did your -- your question was
44 regard to impact, did you have specific areas that would be
45 impacted or was that also general as far as.....

46
47 MR. TUREK: It was general. We just asked,
48 you know, has Ketchikan off -- how have the Ketchikan and
49 off-Island hunters impacted your hunting, essentially,

50 positive, negative or not at all.

00182

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: All right.

2

3 MR. TUREK: So it was a very broad, very
4 general question.

5

6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

7

8 MR. TUREK: And we asked their opinion on the
9 Federal doe hunt. Again, the yellow is opposed to it, the
10 red is neutral and then blue is support.

11

12 In Craig, about 62 percent of the people we
13 interviewed -- deer hunters we interviewed opposed it, 13
14 percent were neutral and 25 percent supported it.

15

16 In Hydaburg, 44 percent supported the doe hunt, 22
17 percent were neutral and 33 percent opposed it.

18

19 In Klawock, about 62 percent opposed the doe hunt, 12
20 percent were neutral and 26 percent supported it.

21

22 And in all three communities, about 58 percent
23 opposed it, 14 percent were neutral and about 28 percent
24 supported it.

25

26 And we asked these questions only of deer hunters,
27 so.....

28

29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, the harvest graph you
30 showed pretty much supported those views comparatively.

31

32 MR. TUREK: Yeah, right.

33

34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I thought so, yeah.

35

36 MR. TUREK: Right. So this just supports our
37 earlier work. I'm not used to being wired.

38

39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I did that also.

40

41 MR. TUREK: I had too much coffee this
42 morning.

43

44 MS. WILSON: Just quit talking with your
45 hands.

46

47 MR. TUREK: I can't. If I put my hands in my
48 pocket I can't talk.

49

MS. MASON: He's got to use that pointer

00183

1 thing.

2
3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah. He's getting
4 intoxicated with power up there.

5
6 MR. TUREK: Okay. And we also asked about
7 nutritional reliance on deer. And in Craig, of course, the
8 yellow again is low, the red is some nutritional alliance,
9 and the blue is high.

10
11 In Craig, 58 percent of the hunters said that they
12 had high nutritional reliance on deer, 23 percent was some
13 reliance, and 19 percent low.

14
15 Hydaburg, 62 percent that they had a high nutritional
16 reliance on deer, 23 percent some and 15 percent low.

17
18 And Klawock, 50 -- about 51 percent had a high
19 nutritional reliance on deer, 34 percent some nutritional
20 reliance on deer, and 15 percent was low.

21
22 And for the three communities, it's 56 percent high
23 reliance on deer, about 27 percent some, and then 17 percent
24 low reliance on deer.

25
26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Now, have you made a
27 comparison using that graph against the total harvest in
28 those communities.....

29
30 MR. TUREK: No, we haven't.

31
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS:to see if there was a
33 correlation?

34
35 MR. TUREK: No, we haven't. That's a good --
36 that would be a good analysis.

37
38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, thank you.

39
40 MR. TUREK: Yeah, what -- unfortunately what
41 happens if we get enough funding to do the actual survey work
42 and then we're real short on the analysis part.

43
44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, I'll do the analysis
45 for free.

46
47 MR. TUREK: Okay. We also asked about the
48 ceremonial taking of deer. Just yes and no. And in Craig,
49 85 percent of the hunters said they didn't take deer for

50 ceremonial purposes, 15 percent did.

00184

1 Hydaburg, 26 percent said no and 74 percent said,
2 yes, they did take deer for ceremonial purposes.

3
4 Klawock, 65 percent said no, they didn't and about 35
5 percent said yes they did.

6
7 And then for the three communities, about 69 percent
8 said no they didn't take deer for ceremonial purposes and 31
9 percent said they did.

10
11 Well, that's all the graphs I have, charts. And I
12 just wanted to share with you, especially these opinion
13 questions because we just got this -- did the analysis on
14 this after the last meeting we had with you so I wanted to
15 make sure that you were able to see what we came up with,
16 those same questions that we asked the key respondents when
17 we asked a broader range of hunters. And we'll also be
18 asking these opinion questions this year when we survey
19 Coffman Cove, Thorne Bay, Whale Pass, Nokidee, and Edna Bay,
20 and Hollis. Those communities we'll be surveying -- excuse
21 me, and Kasaan, we'll survey those communities those year and
22 we'll also have these opinion questions. And we'll also be
23 able to find out how much deer is being harvested from those
24 communities along with the other resources.

25
26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Do you anticipate that
27 generating a proposal from the Department some time?

28
29 MR. TUREK: From the Department of Fish and
30 Game?

31
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

33
34 MR. TUREK: I don't know of any.

35
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The reason I ask that is
37 when I was in Klawock, the only question that was asked me
38 after I gave them an overview on Title VIII was, one person
39 says, has your Council received any biological supporting
40 evidence of a decline of deer on Prince of Wales and my
41 answer was no. So that's the crux of my question.

42
43 MR. TUREK: Yeah.

44
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Not that I'm promoting one.
46 I was just qualifying my question.

47
48 MR. TUREK: Yeah, I guess the Department is
49 looking at some new ways of trying to determine deer

50 populations, and one of which is some genetic sampling that

00185

1 they're going to do. I'm really quite clear how that works
2 or how they plan on using that data to figure out how many
3 deer. As you've heard so many times, it's really hard to
4 count deer, it's not like caribou or moose. They're in the
5 trees.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I was just starting to like
8 the pellet idea.

9
10 MR. TUREK: Well, they get too much crap
11 about that.

12
13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dave, and then Patty.

14
15 MR. JOHNSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, a couple
16 other pieces of information on the deer information. For the
17 '98/99 season as a result of the recommendation that went to
18 the Council and the decision that was made by the Board to
19 require a registration permit, there were actually 292 doe
20 permits issued. Now, we don't know yet how many does were
21 harvested but in spite of the fact that people don't
22 necessarily support the doe season, between the communities
23 on Prince of Wales and Wrangell and Petersburg, which are
24 also rural communities, there were 292 permits issued.

25
26 That's also another factor that's not included in
27 Mike's data, is communities of Wrangell and Petersburg have
28 not been included in that sampling of feelings of how many
29 are harvested and those kinds of questions.

30
31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, they're part of the
32 region.

33
34 Patty.

35
36 MS. PHILLIPS: Do you have '98/99 numbers
37 yet?

38
39 MR. TUREK: No, not yet.

40
41 MS. PHILLIPS: How long does that take?

42
43 MR. TUREK: They get that in the spring,
44 early summer. But I think the opinion on the doe hunt,
45 overall for those three communities, you know, 28 percent
46 were in support of it so it's not -- I mean, you know, 67
47 percent were against it but 28 percent were in support of it.
48 So there is some support for the doe season, you can't deny
49 that.

00186

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, the whole reason for
2 the doe season anyway was to address those people.

3
4 MR. TUREK: Right.

5
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So mission accomplished.

7
8 MR. TUREK: And then the indication of, you
9 know, all the doe permits that were taken this year shows
10 that there is an interest in it.

11
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh. Patty.

13
14 MS. PHILLIPS: Do the graphs tend to show the
15 trend, you know, as far as.....

16
17 MR. TUREK: Yeah.

18
19 MS. PHILLIPS: And then you ask the opinion,
20 is there -- since you're having a harder -- you're having a
21 harder time to hunt or you know, is -- or are the populations
22 lower, and the trend shows that, yes, populations are lower.
23 Do you think that the scientific data will follow the trend
24 or that would be speculation?

25
26 MR. TUREK: Yeah, that would be speculation.
27 Because as far as if they could finally figure out the deer
28 population with that, you know, it would support that, maybe,
29 you know, who knows. But definitely people are saying that,
30 you know, it takes them longer to get their deer, they have
31 to put more effort into it and they're not seeing the deer
32 they used to see.

33
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I think they'd like to see
35 the Forest Service have an alder thinning project so that
36 they have better access and better view from the vehicles.

37
38 MR. TUREK: A little vista clearing from the
39 Park Service guys?

40
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, yeah. Robert.

42
43 MR. WILLIS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have a
44 little bit more information on the doe hunt if you'd like to
45 have it.

46
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sure.

48
49 MR. WILLIS: I pulled up the number of

50 hunters who had reported prior to coming to the meeting day

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1 before yesterday so this is the latest figures we have. And
2 we've had reports from 196 of those 292 hunters who got doe
3 permits, 51 harvested does. And 49 hunters reported that
4 they got a permit but then didn't hunt. And there were 46
5 who reported being unsuccessful, so out of the ones who have
6 reported which is about half, we had 51 does taken and that's
7 about a 50 percent success -- a little better than a 50
8 percent success rate of the people who hunted.

9
10 That -- I was happy to see this for two reasons.
11 One, the fact that it's a fairly good reporting rate for the
12 first year under the program. And the other is, that our
13 original estimate that there would be no more than 200 to 300
14 does taken on Prince of Wales under the doe hunt, and that's
15 -- that was the data we got from the Alaska Department of
16 Fish and Game survey which was somewhat suspect, but this
17 tends to corroborate the fact that it's certainly no more
18 than that. If we had only less than 300 total permits issued
19 and about a 50 percent success rate would be around 150 does.
20 You could roughly, very roughly estimate that's about how
21 many would be taken with those permits.

22
23 MS. GARZA: That's Island wide?

24
25 MR. WILLIS: Island wide.

26
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mike, thank you very much.

28
29 MR. TUREK: Thank you.

30
31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Good report. Ralph.

32
33 MR. GUTHRIE: You know, there's so many
34 islands there.....

35
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I can hear you but
37 everybody else is kind of persnickety around here.

38
39 MR. GUTHRIE: You know, on Prince of Wales,
40 and that area, you know, from Point Baker all the way down to
41 Cape Shakan, there's a tremendous amount of islands. And
42 when you are taking a deer survey, are you actually getting
43 count for Prince of Wales or adjacent island deer? That's
44 kind of very interesting because you know, a lot of deer are
45 taken on those islands.

46
47 MR. WILLIS: I can't answer that question,
48 Ralph, because the Department of Fish and Game does those
49 surveys. And I know most of their pellet count transects

50 that they use to get deer population data are on Prince of

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1 Wales Island but I don't know if they have transects on the
2 other islands also.

3
4 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, could I comment
5 on that?

6
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

8
9 MR. JOHNSON: We have deer transects in
10 several locations on adjacent islands. And the information
11 that goes back to the State is for all the rural users in
12 Unit 2. So they may take their deer off of Sumaz or whatever
13 island, but the reporting back is for all the residents of
14 Unit 2.

15
16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So POW is just a definition
17 for Unit 2 in discussion, okay.

18
19 MR. GUTHRIE: Okay.

20
21 MR. JOHNSON: That includes the little
22 islands around.....

23
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh. So the Game
25 Management Unit 2.

26
27 MR. GUTHRIE: Okay.

28
29 MR. JOHNSON: It's an area of about two
30 million acres, approximately.

31
32 MR. GUTHRIE: Yeah, but so many islands, you
33 know, Sumaz is just one of the littler -- there's a lot of
34 big islands, you know. I hunted down in that area for three
35 or four years and I seen deer there but I never gone up on --
36 you know, I think that hunters that hunted there knew what
37 they were doing because I didn't.

38
39 But unfortunately when they built the airport in
40 Klawock, you know, the day before our season I went to
41 Ketchikan and there seven deer on the airport, when I come
42 back there was seven deer even on the opening hunting day.
43 This is just a story. But anyway, five years later I went to
44 Ketchikan, you know, and I determined that when I got into
45 the airport there was only four deer so there was a
46 population decline. And then you know, about 20 years later
47 I went to Hydaburg on a potlatch, you know, they went into
48 the Klawock airport there and there was eight deer on the
49 airport so I determined that they had a big increase on the

50 island. So that's my estimate of deer population.

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1 Thank you, and I appreciate the time.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Now, there's some biology
4 for you, yeah. I think Ralph's compensation should be
5 adjusted accordingly.

6

7 Natasha Calvin. Come on up and tell us who you are.

8

9 MS. CALVIN: My name's Natasha Calvin.

10

11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

12

13 MS. GARZA: I talked to Natasha last night
14 and I asked her to come in and share her concerns with the
15 Council. She's not been before a Council meeting before and
16 she was concerned that we had subsistence as our goal, and so
17 I would like to ask that we introduce ourselves just so she
18 has a feel for who we are; if that's okay Mr. Chair?

19

20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It's not okay but we'll do
21 it.

22

23 MS. GARZA: All right. Mary.

24

25 MS. RUDOLPH: Mary Rudolph from Hoonah.

26

27 MR. ANDERSON: I'm Bill Thomas from Craig.
28 Lonnie Anderson from Kake.

29

30 MS. McCONNELL: I'm Mim McConnell from the
31 Tongass. I seem to be moving around a bit. Presently from
32 Sitka, back to Port Alexander soon.

33

34 MR. GEORGE: Gabriel George from Angoon.

35

36 MS. GARZA: Dolly Garza.

37

38 MS. WILSON: Marilyn Wilson from Haines.

39

40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Amy Paige from Fish and
41 Game. Bill Thomas, Ketchikan.

42

43 MR. SORUM: Alan Sorum from Wrangell.

44

45 MR. KITKA: Herman Kitka, Sitka.

46

47 MR. VALE: John Vale from Yakutat.

48

49 MS. PHILLIPS: Patricia Phillips, Pelican.

00190

1 MR. JOHNSON: I'm just the coordinator from
2 Craig, Road Kill.

3
4 MR. CLARK: That's the Council.

5
6 MS. McCONNELL: I think it's your turn.

7
8 MS. CALVIN: That really -- I took Dolly's
9 word for it. I'm a retired marine biologist. I used to work
10 for National Marine Fisheries Service.

11
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Are you speaking for
13 yourself or an organization?

14
15 MS. CALVIN: I'm speaking for myself.

16
17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

18
19 MS. CALVIN: I'm also a subsistence user.
20 And in this case I want to emphasize that I'm a subsistence
21 user of seaweeds.

22
23 I'm very concerned about the possible
24 commercialization of subsistence species. And I really wish
25 that all subsistence species could get the status that deer
26 have, in which they cannot be used commercially.

27
28 I was just recently called by someone at Fish and
29 Game who was dealing with a permit application from somebody
30 in Kake. They wanted to harvest 15,000 pounds of black
31 seaweed. The way it was stated on the permit was proferia
32 (ph) species to sell to tourists.

33
34 Black seaweed, as I'm sure all of you know, is a very
35 important subsistence species for the Native peoples here.
36 And many others use it as well. It's an exceptionally high
37 nutrient seaweed. It's also the jenis (ph) that is used by
38 the Japanese to make knori. The japanese actually culture
39 knori or proferias to make knori and they're probably at
40 about their maximum ability to raise it there. It's a staple
41 in the japanese diet. It's the seaweed that's used for
42 making sushi.....

43
44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sushi.

45
46
47 MS. CALVIN:rolls. And they use it for
48 many, many other things as well.

49

In the process of discussing this with the Fish and

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1 Game agent who called me to ask about the species, I learned
2 that there has been a permit given, I'm not sure how long
3 ago, to harvest 200,000 pounds of bull kelp in the Summer
4 Strait area. And apparently the purpose of.....

5
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Bull kelp?

7
8 MS. CALVIN: Yes, that's neurosis. It's the
9 kelp that's in Olga Straits between the markers there.

10
11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It's not natrosis?

12
13 MS. CALVIN: Not matrosis, no.

14
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

16
17 MS. CALVIN: It's neurosis, it's the one with
18 the single bulb and the long, long blades.

19
20 So far, apparently, they've only harvested 10,000
21 pounds. But this is another concern. Seaweeds are extremely
22 important as a base for the food chain and in areas where
23 there is a lot of kelp, other species flourish as well. And
24 I'm concerned, not only about the subsistence use by human
25 beings, but the contribution that the kelps and seaweeds make
26 to the overall productivity of our area in the marine
27 environment is tremendous.

28
29 I'm concerned that these permits can be given, they
30 can be applied for and given without any input from the
31 public, without anyone knowing that even that the permit has
32 been applied for or granted. And I would like to see some
33 oversight, perhaps by your group of these applications and
34 some input from the public who use the resource already.

35
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is that a Federal
37 permitting program?

38
39 MS. CALVIN: Um?

40
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is that a Federal
42 permitting program?

43
44 MS. CALVIN: No, it's State. It was a person
45 at Fish and Game who called me to inquire about the species.
46 And I certainly don't fault the Fish and Game people.

47
48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is it a classification
49 that's in a regulation book?

00192

1 MS. CALVIN: I don't know. If I'd known I
2 was going to testify before you I would have done some
3 research on these things.

4
5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, that's okay. I
6 understand some of the impromptu things and if you can't
7 respond then that's not your fault, thank you.

8
9 MS. CALVIN: Yes, that's all I have to say,
10 thank you. Unless there's questions?

11
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I have some questions. I'm
13 interested in learning more about kelp. I mean I've been
14 born and raised around here and to me, kelp is kelp. But I
15 did learn macrosis, so I am kind of a scientist now in that
16 respect. I didn't know fish eggs and kelp was so eloquent.
17 But bull kelp, to me, was the big stuff in the -- what I see
18 around creeks, you know. We get the kelp from the bottom and
19 where the creeks can come up?

20
21 MS. CALVIN: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

22
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: And some of those fish we
24 had that were so deep we had to go down that far to get them,
25 uh, Ralph? So -- but anyway, I was interested to know that
26 bull kelp was those other kelp. The important thing about
27 kelp, too, is that it's such an important habitat.

28
29 MS. CALVIN: It is, that's true.

30
31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: See, and so, yeah, your
32 expression on it is important to the environment. That's
33 very accurate, that's good.

34
35 MS. CALVIN: It's also an important
36 navigational marker.

37
38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We won't get into the
39 navigational part right now.

40
41 Mim.

42
43 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah, this past summer we
44 were over in the Point Baker/Port Protection for a while and
45 we met a gillnet fisherman there that has a business with
46 some other partners for the Sumner Strait area. Actually I
47 think they have a plant down at Cape Pole, and they harvest
48 bull kelp franz. It grows back. They don't take the whole
49 plant, they just take a portion of the franz, I think, and

50 they make plant food out of it. And they've been in the

00193

1 process of -- they're just doing this on an experimental
2 basis and they're in the process of trying to get a permanent
3 permit to do this.

4
5 And I -- it sounded like it employs about eight
6 people, and it seemed to have no -- from what they -- from
7 what he was telling me, it didn't seem to have any
8 detrimental impact on that area where they were taking the
9 kelp around the plants, but I don't -- you know, I didn't see
10 any scientific studies from it or anything like that.

11
12 But -- so I don't know if that's the same one that
13 you know. I don't remember which kind of kelp it was but
14 probably it was the same people, I don't know.

15
16 MS. CALVIN: It could be the same people.

17
18 MS. McCONNELL: Uh-huh.

19
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: John.

21
22 MR. VALE: Yeah, thank you. I was wondering
23 -- I'd like to ask Mike a question, are you aware of any
24 consultation that's taken place when the permits have been
25 authorized, like for seaweed? Because I know in our area,
26 black seaweed is pretty scarce and it's highly praised, and I
27 suspect that some other communities might feel that way in
28 Southeast here. I don't know but there seems to me that
29 there ought to be consultation with local groups, tribal
30 governments, advisory committees and subsistence division
31 before any permits like this are authorized. I'm just
32 wondering what you might know about that?

33
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I guess you're done, Ms.
35 Calvin. Thank you very much.

36
37 MS. CALVIN: Thank you.

38
39 MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, before she
40 leaves, I'd like to ask her, where was the permit for the
41 black seaweed from?

42
43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Kake.

44
45 MS. CALVIN: That was from Kake.

46
47 MS. GARZA: Wasn't it Southern Baranof?

48
49 MS. CALVIN: Yes, it was for.....

00194

1 MR. ANDERSON: Oh, okay.

2

3 MS. CALVIN:the area between, I believe
4 it was Red Bluff Bay and Port Alexander. It's not so much
5 this particular permit I'm concerned about, although I am
6 concerned, it's the principle of future possibilities as
7 well.

8

9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, if they can wreck
10 something, Kake will do it.

11

12 MS. McCONNELL: Was that permit issued?

13

14 MS. CALVIN: No, it hasn't been issued,
15 they're considering it. And when I told him that it --
16 pointed out to him that it was a subsistence species he was
17 concerned.

18

19 MS. McCONNELL: And did he say anything about
20 contacting, for example, the Port Alexander Fish and Game
21 Advisory Committee?

22

23 MS. CALVIN: Not to me.

24

25 MS. McCONNELL: Uh-huh.

26

27 MS. CALVIN: But I don't know what his plans
28 are.

29

30 MS. McCONNELL: I'd love to get his name.

31

32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We all would. We'll take
33 care of this fellow.

34

35 MR. TUREK: This is Mike Turek, Division of
36 Subsistence, Fish and Game. I just learned about this
37 proposal a few days ago and Comm-Fish here, people in
38 Commercial Fish contacted me. And they wanted to know what I
39 knew about seaweed, and so I just learned about it a few days
40 ago. And yeah, they haven't issued the permit yet and so
41 they're just trying to, figure out, you know, how this is
42 going to impact things. So this would be the time for STA,
43 Fish and Game Advisory Committee from PA, people like that,
44 organizations like that to comment on this. Contact
45 Commercial Fish here in Sitka.

46

47 So right now it's just a proposal.

48

49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly, then Gabe.

00195

1 MS. GARZA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Thank you,
2 Natasha for coming forward and for mentioning it to me last
3 night. Because I think it is a very big issue and I know
4 it's an issue in terms of process that T&H and since has
5 brought up before. Is that there are a number of resources
6 that basically fall between the cracks, Devil's Club was a
7 big issue for a while. But in my office, people come in and
8 are interested in commercializing black seaweed, Hudson Bay
9 Tea. I've talked to people who have wanted to start jarring
10 up goose tongue and selling it on a commercial basis. And
11 there is no formal process to go through through the State.

12
13 It doesn't have to go to Fish and Game Advisory, it
14 doesn't have to go anywhere. Someone at Fish and Game can
15 issue, even a temporary or experimental permit and allow
16 something like this to happen for several years. I know that
17 at least one permit in the past has been issued for black
18 seaweed, and that it was harvested for a while by a woman and
19 then she stopped. But it's of grave concern to me,
20 particularly black seaweed. The nariosis is also a concern
21 for me, even if they are taking only the franz. It is those
22 franz that provide the canopy that shelter all the rock fish
23 and all of the small fish in intertidal regions and provide
24 that very necessary habitat.

25
26 And although we don't take up species in this zone, I
27 know it's a zone that Sitka Tribe has requested that the
28 Council address because it doesn't have those protections.
29 And so we -- I know Sitka Tribe has come before us before, I
30 think it was Mary Martin and said, you know, we need to
31 extend our reach out to this area so that we can provide some
32 protection. Given that we can't do that at this meeting, I
33 would, however, after discussion, hope that we would support
34 a letter or a resolution going over to ADF&G outlining our
35 concerns with the process, and also you know, expressing
36 concerns about commercialization of black seaweed.

37
38 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

39
40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, in addition to that,
41 I would be interested in seeing the criteria and methods of
42 any harvest, and I would like to see protection measures to
43 that that wouldn't lead to this total destruction of regrowth
44 capability of those seaweeds.

45
46 The people that use those resources now know when,
47 where and how to harvest that without having a devastating
48 impact on the regrowth capability of that same resource. And
49 if you don't have that, there's a good chance of creating

50 another extinct species needlessly. So I think that needs to

00196

1 have a real good look taken at it before any permits are
2 issued.

3
4 Gabe, then Mim.

5
6 MR. GEORGE: All I wanted to say that there
7 is no weight criteria for starting a commercial operation in
8 Alaska. There is no customary and traditional requirements.
9 There is no long-term use. There's no established use. You
10 can go into the Department and say you want to do something
11 and they'll issue a permit. If it's not a commercial use
12 item that's recognized around.

13
14 So the burden of proof, again, in terms of the users
15 and the resource falls on the subsistence user and not on the
16 commercial entity. And it's left up to the judgment of an
17 area biologist or -- and he makes all these determinations
18 and without any say from here or there or anywhere as far as
19 I know. And that's the way the subsistence salmon fishery
20 used to be also. Area biologists used to make -- issue the
21 permits and he'd determine how many fish you could get
22 whether it met your needs or not.

23
24 But I guess I would move that we have, you know, that
25 they pass an eight criteria test before they issue a
26 commercial permit to a person.

27
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, I think those are
29 good points. And I think that leaves this Council with the
30 responsibility to come forth with the information that we
31 have to the responsible issuing department may not have in
32 order to assist in making sure that improved management
33 occurs in this process to protect the seaweed. And I don't
34 think it needs to be cumbersome. And I think we can do it in
35 plain English. But I don't know how long plain English will
36 last because we'll start converting structures of comments
37 and making it into something else.

38
39 But it is a good concern, and Ms. Calvin, we thank
40 you for bringing that forth. And like I said, I think this
41 Council has a responsibility in assisting in helping to
42 protect that while not -- while not prohibiting access to it.

43
44
45 Mim.

46
47 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah, to me this also raises
48 the issue of something that was mentioned yesterday about
49 subsistence licenses for use of subsistence foods, no matter

50 what they are. And I was thinking about this last night at

00197

1 home, and I was wondering about the Council coming up --
2 writing up some proposals that would go to whatever Boards
3 they would need to go to. I had a question for someone from
4 ADF&G about where we're at in the Board cycles. Is there a
5 Board of Fish, are they accepting proposals right now until
6 the middle of April for the Board of Fish?

7
8 MR. TUREK: Right. For the next -- for
9 Southeast.

10
11 MS. McCONNELL: That's what I thought.
12 Southeast is in the fall, right.

13
14 MR. TUREK: So that would be a place you
15 could address this seaweed issue.

16
17 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah, that's what I was
18 thinking.

19
20 MR. TUREK: Bring it up in front of the
21 Board.

22
23 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah. So either we could
24 write up a proposal and submit it into the Board process so
25 people, regional -- or advisory committees could comment on
26 the proposals that we submit. Or -- to me that would be the
27 best method for getting it out there for people to talk about
28 and it would also raise those issues so that the committees
29 could be aware that this is happening.

30
31 So I would suggest that, you know, maybe we take some
32 time during lunch or something and come up, you know,
33 whoever's interested and talk about these two issues. One
34 would be subsistence licenses for -- and then the other one
35 would be this issue about permits for seaweeds. Does that
36 sound like something people would be interested in?

37
38 MS. WILSON: I would second that in a motion.

39
40 MS. McCONNELL: Well, I'll say it's a motion
41 I guess.

42
43 MS. WILSON: I'll second her motion.

44
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Read the motion again,
46 please?

47
48 COURT REPORTER: Mim wants a proposal to be written
49 up and she wants to have a meeting at lunch for a letter

50 regarding subsistence licenses and the issue of the permits

00198

1 for seaweed.

2

3 MS. McCONNELL: For seaweed, yeah. And it
4 would be actual proposals, not a letter, necessarily but a
5 proposal.

6

7 COURT REPORTER: You want to write up the proposals
8 to be sent to the Board of Fish during this cycle.

9

10 MS. McCONNELL: Right.

11

12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Moved and seconded, you
13 heard the motion, discussion.

14

15 MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, I certainly
16 support that idea of at least sending a letter to the Fish
17 and Game immediately requesting that that public hearing be
18 taken, say in Kake, on the use of black seaweed, in that,
19 that's a primary subsistence area that we harvest seaweed in
20 that area there.

21

22 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah, I think a letter would
23 be good.

24

25 MR. VALE: Mr. Chairman.

26

27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: John.

28

29 MR. VALE: Sorry, Mim, but my mind was
30 wandering here a little bit and I didn't catch all of what
31 you said.

32

33 MS. McCONNELL: John.

34

35 MR. VALE: So could you repeat what you said
36 about the licenses again, I didn't understand?

37

38 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah. Yesterday, Dolly had
39 said very well about something about the fact that she's not
40 a sport license user of, you know, like salmon or something
41 but she's a subsistence user and that is when I said here,
42 here, and I remember seeing Patty nod her head.

43

44 MS. PHILLIPS: You're talking about fish?

45

46 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah, it was on a fish. That
47 was a discussion about fish. And I got to thinking about
48 that last night and realized that was really important and
49 felt like it needed to be dealt with and knowing -- pretty

50 sure that there was the Board of Fish meeting coming up in

00199

1 the fall and that proposals need to be in by the middle of
2 April, and that maybe this Council could do something about
3 that instead of just talking about it. So that -- and when
4 this discussion came up, -- to me they're similar sit --
5 we're dealing with subsistence issues and what the people in
6 the communities use.

7
8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. This is going to be
9 discussion at lunch, we're not going to discuss it right now.
10 It will happen during lunch.

11
12 MS. McCONNELL: That's what it was, so.....

13
14 MR. VALE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I just wasn't
15 listening and I needed to get clarified on that.

16
17 I had, maybe as a part to that, the reason I was
18 wandering is I kind of had a different scenario going around
19 through my mind. And I guess where my thinking was on it
20 was, that perhaps it would be good for us to send a letter to
21 Mitch, Federal Subsistence Board asking him to direct the
22 Staff to work with Department of Fish and Game to set up a
23 process for consultation whenever subsistence resources, call
24 them newly developed resources are, you know, being
25 considered or permitted, that they should develop a process
26 of consultation between both Federal and State. And perhaps
27 in that process of consultation, they can involve bodies like
28 us to be a part of it before those permits are issued.

29
30 I'd be happy to get with you at lunch and try to
31 narrow it.

32
33 MR. GUTHRIE: Mr. Chairman.

34
35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, Ralph, this is the
36 property of the Council right now. It's an action. We can't
37 take public comment during action item. But as a result of
38 this, they are going to meet at lunch, you're welcome to sit
39 in on that discussion if you wish.

40
41 MR. GUTHRIE: Where will lunch be?

42
43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It will be on Mim, I don't
44 know where she's going to have it.

45
46 MS. McCONNELL: I've got about five bucks.

47
48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Any further discussion on
49 the motion, for or against?

00200

1 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, just a point of
2 clarification, I'd like to ask Mike, did you hear about that
3 permit because they called you and said, are there
4 subsistence uses or was it more accidental?

5
6 MR. TUREK: No, Comm-Fish did call me. And I
7 was going to talk to them about that while I was in town this
8 time but they've got the herring thing going so I didn't get
9 a chance to get back. We spoke about it briefly. They
10 explained to me, you know, the location so I was going to
11 contact them and see where they were with these permitting
12 processes. I did tell him it was a subsistence species, it'd
13 be a concern for both Kake and Sitka.

14
15 Right now, they're involved with this herring thing
16 so they're all caught up in that.

17
18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We are going to break no
19 later than noon, so if they have more public testimony out
20 there, we're going to have to move you.

21
22 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman.

23
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Patty.

25
26 MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Thomas. I'm going to
27 be the Lone Ranger here but I know the woman who did harvest
28 the seaweed. She's a born and raised Native Alaskan woman
29 who raised her children in the Pelican area. We have a dying
30 economy in Pelican and if there are ways that families can
31 continue to support themselves, even on a very minimal basis,
32 then I don't want to be putting the burden of government on
33 them and make it so far for them to even eke out a very tiny
34 income, and yet they can still use the subsistence resources
35 to help get them through their year-round living in rural
36 Alaska.

37
38 Black seaweed is -- the way she harvests it it would
39 grow back. Because you can cut it. If you don't pull the
40 roots, it will grow back if you cut it up above. And there's
41 only a certain window of time when you can harvest it.
42 Because if it gets too long it starts to get -- well, you
43 guys all know it starts to get the little shells in it.
44 Black seaweed is a type of seaweed that can be mari-
45 culturally grown. And so I don't want to completely shut it
46 down to commercialism if it can be used, not right off the
47 rocks, but if it could be mari-culturally grown.

48
49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, then you want to sit

50 in on the discussion at noon then.

00201

1

2

MS. PHILLIPS: No, I want to be able to say this, right here, right on the public record. And as far as the bull kelp goes, the thickness of the forests of bull kelp is determined by the number of sea otter that are in your area. If we have a lot of sea otter we're going to have a lot of kelp. If our hunters keep the sea otter down, then the other species that feed on the kelp can keep those kelp forests down.

10

11 So I just want to be careful with the permitting
12 process. I don't -- you know, I don't it to be a burden on
13 us people that are out in the rural area that have
14 traditionally harvested something without having to get a
15 permit. But if we have to get a permit, then let it say
16 subsistence on it instead of personal use or sport.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I think that's the intent
21 of the discussion at noon. Further discussion on the motion.

22

23 MR. VALE: Question.

24

25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Question's been called.
26 All those in favor say aye.

27

28 IN UNISON: Aye.

29

30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Those opposed same sign.

31

32 (No opposing responses)

33

34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Motion carries.

35

36 Again, there are some people in the room that are
37 very familiar with this species, the issue, the impacts, the
38 importance and I invite any of you that with to be in on this
39 discussion to contribute to the discussion that members of
40 the Council are going to have during the lunch break. It's
41 an open invitation. It will be orderly because Mim is one
42 rough Chairman.

43

44 So with that to anticipate, we've got 22 minutes left
45 for public comment this morning. Thank you, Mike. Tribal
46 councils, regional village corporations, municipalities, et
47 cetera. They saw the time posted, it's 11:00 o'clock, we're
48 in that window now. Is there anybody here wishing to take
49 advantage of that. Jack.

00202

1 MR. LORRIGAN: Good morning. My name is Jack
2 Lorrigan. I'm the biologist for the Sitka Tribe of Alaska.
3 And thank you for following up on my invitation to come to
4 Sitka, it's good to see you here. You're a little early for
5 the herring it appears.

6
7 Last night the tribal council met and adopted three
8 proposals. The first proposal to go before the Board of
9 Fish, I know you're not dealing with that right now but I
10 wanted you to be aware of how the mind set is here.

11
12 The first proposal is to have a 10 year moratorium on
13 the herring fishery, which the tribal council has always
14 asked for.

15
16 The second -- the language of that proposal was up to
17 10 years. That one passed along with a second one which
18 called for a 10 percent maximum cap on the sac roe fishery.
19 We have come across evidence and we're gathering support from
20 all the IRAs from Southeast to support that, it's the way the
21 fishery first started out. British Columbia has thrown out
22 their ASA models and we're still investigating why. The
23 Department of Fish and Game in Washington State has turned
24 all their prey species into forage designation which your
25 caplen, your smelt, your herring, needlefish whatever, those
26 species can no longer be harvested 10 percent. Some studies
27 indicate that a 20 percent exploitation rate is detrimental
28 because of remaining biomass, and we're following up on that.
29 So that's one of the things we're looking at doing for the
30 year 2000.

31
32 And then the third proposal was to create a
33 management board similar to the one, I believe, is going on
34 in Togiak. Where the management decision is not carried by
35 one person but all interested parties involved. For example,
36 commercial users, the Fish and Game biologists, the tribe,
37 ANB and at an at-large or Sea-Assembly person so that all the
38 interests are represented at this board.

39
40 I think that's all we had last night. So thank you.

41
42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Question. Just out of
43 curiosity, have you given any consideration to the
44 compatibility of different user groups on a board like that?

45
46 MR. LORRIGAN: There was a regional panel set
47 up in the 1997 Board of Fish meetings and from what we
48 understo -- from what happened out there is that the
49 commercial people usually end up attacking the subsistence

50 people and it kind of degenerated. So that board no longer

00203

1 exists except in somebody's memory. That could be a problem.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You're going to try that
4 here though?

5

6 MR. LORRIGAN: From what I understand when
7 this sac roe fishery first started in the early '70s there
8 was a board similar to that and that it was run by Jim
9 Parker, the area biologist at that time. And he took
10 everybody's considerations into factoring the fishery, he
11 even closed it down one year.

12

13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: What components of that
14 body is left in existence now?

15

16 MR. LORRIGAN: Moe Johnson is still a fishery
17 -- a fisherman, I don't know if he seins, but he certainly
18 trawls. I don't know.....

19

20 MS. GARZA: Jim Parker's still here.

21

22 MR. LORRIGAN: I don't know, is Lupis Harmon
23 in that at all?

24

25 MS. GARZA: Jim Parker's still here.

26

27 MR. LORRIGAN: And Larry Calvin, I talked
28 with him the other day. He's a commercial fisherman.

29

30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, so that's my
31 question. The only survivors of that whole component are
32 people in the -- commercial users?

33

34 MR. LORRIGAN: It appears that way.

35

36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, thank you. Mim.

37

38 MS. McCONNELL: What was the very first item
39 that you mentioned, it went right by me?

40

41 MR. LORRIGAN: The proposal was a 10 year
42 moratorium.....

43

44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Moratorium.

45

46 MR. LORRIGAN:on the fishery.

47

48 MS. McCONNELL: I was thinking there was
49 something before that, maybe not. Okay, thanks.

00204

1 MR. GUTHRIE: The Board of Fish, is that what
2 you.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Ralph, come on up.

5
6 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman.

7
8 MR. GUTHRIE: This is just for general
9 comment.

10
11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We got her just before,
12 Ralph, Dolly go ahead.

13
14 MR. GUTHRIE: Okay.

15
16 MS. GARZA: Just a follow-up to Jack. We did
17 look at the minutes of Haines, and we did support a
18 resolution regarding Southeast herring stocks, but I don't
19 think I've ever seen that resolution. Okay. Have you seen
20 that Jack, okay, can we get a copy to Sitka Tribe so they can
21 include it in their packet to the Board?

22
23 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

24
25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, Ralph.

26
27 MR. GUTHRIE: I have some general comments
28 that I'd like to make. And one of them is on your earlier
29 discussion this morning and I thought it was very good
30 because it brought out a lot of points.

31
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly, you've got the
33 Chair.

34
35 MR. GUTHRIE: It was on the use of different
36 areas by subsistence users. And I think Bill says that --
37 and he's right, we can't limit subsistence users in any
38 areas. And though John has some emotional feelings on the
39 Situk River, that's not exactly what the general provisions
40 in what your thing calls for except for when we have problems
41 in the amount of fish that are coming back.

42
43 I think Gabe pointed out that everybody has
44 boundaries and this is true. But the boundaries that were
45 laid out were the boundaries that were for subsistence use
46 for a group of people. And -- but it wasn't necessarily
47 meant to keep other people out of that area, you know. And I
48 think Herman, in the past, has said that a lot of areas were
49 used by all our people and Sitka was one of them, Glacier Bay

50 was one of them. You know, I'm not going to be able to name

00205

1 all of them because I'm not as up on that, our culture as I
2 should.

3

4 So when you look at making regulations, you don't
5 make regulations on a pin head, you do it with a group of
6 people that are permitted for subsistence.

7

8 Okay, I'd like to support Jack on some of his
9 comments on herring. And although he didn't mention it we
10 have -- on a present management scheme we have three failures
11 in herring and that's the general area, the Cashakes (ph)
12 area and the Seymour Canal area. And so I think the
13 management scheme that we're looking at has a pretty major
14 fault. The other part of that is the fact that we're looking
15 at here in Sitka for the last seven or eight years that the
16 herring have just been on this end of the area. So at one
17 point everybody considered that one stock of herring from
18 Salisbury Sound down to Whale Bay, but that doesn't appear to
19 be the case because we're not getting a lot of herring below
20 the airport south. So I think we're probably looking at
21 several different stocks of herring. And that we've got to
22 be a lot more careful in how we harvest those stocks of
23 herring. And a 10 percent level may even be too high;
24 because in Metlakatla, my family told me that they're
25 harvesting at five percent and they figure that 10 percent
26 they were harvesting at Cashakes during that period of time
27 contributed the fact that for the last six or seven years
28 that they haven't been able to harvest at Cashakes and
29 they're harvesting at a place called Cat Island now.

30

31 So anyway, I have the -- I'm really interested in
32 this here thing that you're doing, Mim, so I'd like to know
33 where you're going to have lunch at so I can attend it.

34

35 Thank you, I appreciate the opportunity to speak.

36

37 MS. GARZA: Thank you, Ralph. Are there
38 others who are here for public testimony? Okay, so that
39 opportunity will be provided at the end of the meeting again,
40 correct?

41

42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Maybe.

43

44 MS. GARZA: Correct.

45

46 MS. McCONNELL: Dolly.

47

48 MS. GARZA: Mim.

49

MS. McCONNELL: Yeah, I just would like to

00206

1 see a show of hands of who would like to get together over
2 lunch just to get an idea of our numbers? Anyone else
3 besides John and I, Marilyn.

4
5 MR. GUTHRIE: I'm a big eater so that's two.
6

7 MS. McCONNELL: So let's see that's one, two,
8 three, four, five, six, seven -- about seven to eight people
9 maybe. Any thoughts on where to eat.

10
11 MS. WILSON: If there's too many, I can back
12 out.

13
14 MS. McCONNELL: No.

15
16 MS. GARZA: The airport has that big table.

17
18 MS. McCONNELL: When we're done here just
19 come over here and we'll figure out where to go eat.

20
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: 1:30 we come back.

22
23 (Off record - 11:50 a.m.)

24
25 (On record - 1:30 p.m.)

26
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is the Department through?
28 Mike, are you all done?

29
30 (No audible answer)

31
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. That brings us up to
33 9C, Forest Service Regional Office, forests and districts.

34
35 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, we've got a
36 couple people. Ted Loutenberg, who's with the Wood
37 Utilization lab here with the Forest Service would like to
38 make some comments, and also Marty Marshal with the Forest
39 Service also was going to make a few comments this afternoon.

40
41
42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We'll start with Ms.
43 Woolwine.

44
45 MS. WOOLWINE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And
46 I also want to thank the people from Sitka's Sitka Tribe and
47 the local branches of its various agencies for hosting this
48 meeting here. Any excuse to come to Sitka. I like it here.
49

CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Do you want to give your

00207

1 name for the record?

2

3 MS. WOOLWINE: My name is Phyllis Woolwine.

4

5 MS. McCONNELL: Say it slowly, there's more
6 people just coming in.

7

8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah.

9

10 MS. McCONNELL: Mr. Chairman, could we have a
11 one-minute break here for these people to come in the door?

12

13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No. 1:30, we're going. We
14 had a quorum, let's go.

15

16 MS. WOOLWINE: My name is.....

17

18 MS. McCONNELL: There you go. We interrupted
19 the Chairman, to just let you guys get.....

20

21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Proceed, Phyllis.

22

23 MS. WOOLWINE: I'm Phyllis Woolwine from
24 Ketchikan. I'm here today representing the Forest Service.
25 I'm the coordinator for the Special Forest Products task
26 group. We've been spending about the last year and a half
27 developing policy which -- developing guidelines which we
28 hope to implement as policy with the help of the of the
29 feedback that we've gotten, and continue hopefully to get.

30

31 Mr. Chairman, I'm aware that you have voted to accept
32 the minutes from the last meeting. I'm wondering if it's too
33 late to add a couple of small, but important corrections to
34 the minutes for the last meeting?

35

36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No.

37

38 MS. WOOLWINE: I didn't get a chance to look
39 at them until after that, and I wanted to point out for the
40 record that under -- on page 12 under Special Forest
41 Products, in the first sentence says it refers to this policy
42 on access and permitting for the uses of non-commercial
43 timber plants. Is there a recorder here? Yeah. Which
44 should read the commercial uses of non-timber plants. We are
45 not regulating non-commercial uses, and we're not regulating
46 timber under this policy, so those are things that.....

47

48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is that the implicating our
49 inefficiencies of our recorder?

00208

1 MS. WOOLWINE: Just a small clarification.
2 And then it goes on to say that this policy at that time is
3 -- it says it's now available for review by a wider public,
4 and it was not available at that time. In fact, to move
5 right into my presentation, I would say that on Friday, last
6 Friday, the policy we've been working on for the last year
7 and a half first went out for public review. It's now been
8 released for review by all the publics, plus all the other
9 state and federal agencies, and again to the tribes. We are
10 always, of course, welcoming.....

11
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, let me offer
13 something. In the future if you have adjustments to make
14 like that, go ahead and make them, and make them with Dave,
15 and he'll route them through the proper channels to make sure
16 that they're entered in the proper place, so.....

17
18 MS. WOOLWINE: Okay.

19
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS:feel free to do that.

21
22 MS. WOOLWINE: Thank you. Again, the draft
23 was released on Friday. I haven't seen any of the newspaper
24 articles or anything yet, and I haven't heard about it on the
25 radio, but I've heard rumors that it's -- the draft -- the
26 news release is out. There are copies of the news release
27 going around today. And comments will be accepted on the
28 draft through April 30th I think is the last Friday in April.
29 And today I want to -- this draft is 15 pages long. It's
30 been through a couple of drafts. The first one was reviewed
31 by the tribes based on a government-to-government
32 relationship. Input was incorporated then into this draft
33 which was just released.

34
35 And what I would like to do now to consolidate my
36 presentation is to first focus on how this draft affects
37 subsistence users, and then to give you any further updates
38 on how it's changes since I last presented to you.

39
40 First, in contract to what we heard just before we
41 broke for lunch about some concerns about commercial permits
42 for some other things, it's really -- it's not a -- if this
43 draft goes through, it's not going to be so easy to get a
44 commercial permit. It's not going to be hard, but it's not
45 going to go without public review, and definitely not without
46 tribal review. And I would just introduce -- lead off by
47 saying that this policy was set up to minimize -- to
48 hopefully minimize the impact of commercial use on
49 subsistence users, and even on what we call personal use,

50 which is people are using it for their homes and families in

00209

1 Ketchikan and Juneau. They're not considered subsistence
2 users under ANILCA.

3
4 I gave you a handout, and there's more of these
5 available in the back for people that don't have one. It's
6 kind of a cheat-sheet that I knocked out real quick to help
7 you see some of the aspects of this draft that relate to
8 subsistence use, and some of the updates.

9
10 First of all, this draft again does not attempt to
11 regulate subsistence use or personal use. This is something
12 from the very beginning that we were aware would not go over
13 well, and that we don't have a need to do. It does not
14 require permits for subsistence use, including customary
15 trade and barter. So, for example, if the black seaweed were
16 growing in the forest and not in the sea, and someone was
17 concerned about a customary trade, which includes cash sale,
18 that it would not be regulated in the way that was talked
19 about earlier for that seaweed. So it includes customary
20 trade and barter as defined by ANILCA as exempt from the need
21 for permits and regulation by the Forest Service.

22
23 Number two, subsistence is given the highest priority
24 for use when it's necessary to restrict harvest. That's on
25 page eight. There -- all the references to these changes are
26 on this page here. On page eight it does show that the top
27 priority for use would be subsistence use, the second
28 priority would be personal use, which is someone is using it
29 for personal use who doesn't live in a subsistence community.
30 And then the next priority would be research use that was for
31 non-commercial purposes. And the final and last priority
32 would be commercial use. So commercial use is allowed, but
33 first we need to protect people's subsistence and personal
34 use. That's the approach that the Forest Services takes on
35 special forest products.

36
37 It also states that areas of known traditional
38 subsistence and personal use harvest will be prioritized for
39 such uses. And if an area near Sitka was -- is an area that
40 is relied on by Sitka residents, then that will be continued
41 to -- that will continue to be prioritized for those uses,
42 and commercial harvest will be directed elsewhere. In
43 particular, number four, commercial use is directed
44 primarily toward areas where some other management
45 disturbance is going to happen, like timber harvest or road
46 building. Those plants are going to be damaged anyway, and
47 therefore we're directing that kind of harvest in.....

48
49 MS. GARZA: Could I.....

00210

1 MS. WOOLWINE:those areas. Yeah?

2
3 MS. GARZA: Phyllis, are you -- we -- you had
4 different things up there, which one are you referring to
5 when you say pages.....

6
7 MS. WOOLWINE: The third one.

8
9 MS. GARZA: The.....

10
11 MS. WOOLWINE: Look down. Look down on your
12 table. There's something that says Special Forest Products
13 Draft Policy Update. Is it down there somewhere? I stuck
14 one in your spot.

15
16 MS. GARZA: You mean our agenda? Oh. I went
17 over.....

18
19 MS. WOOLWINE: I guess other people.....

20
21 MS. GARZA:to the table and.....

22
23 MS. WOOLWINE:put things there.....

24
25 MS. GARZA:got some stuff.

26
27 MS. WOOLWINE:after I did.

28
29 MS. GARZA: No, I went over to the table. I
30 just.....

31
32 MS. WOOLWINE: Okay.

33
34 MS. GARZA:I plopped my stuff down. So
35 it's this one. Okay.

36
37 MS. WOOLWINE: Yeah. And right now I'm
38 referring to number four.

39
40 Commercial use will be allowed in other areas if such
41 an area is not in the use area where the permit's applied
42 for.

43
44 But that brings us to number five, if a permit
45 application comes into a district, and this is something that
46 is gone into in great depth in the new draft. We did get
47 feedback from tribes saying how are we going to be involved
48 in this process, how are our concerns going to be addressed,
49 as well as concerns from other publics. And pages nine

50 through 11 spell out that process, beginning with any permit

00211

1 applications that come into a district office will be sent to
2 the tribe, to alert the tribe of the proposed activity. The
3 tribe will then be asked to respond to that, if there are any
4 concerns. These permit applications will also be subject to
5 public review, so the public will also have the opportunity
6 to view permit applications and comment on them in case there
7 are concerns about their subsistence or personal use, or even
8 cultural concerns. Anything can be brought up at that time.
9 The District Ranger then has the authority to make the final
10 decision, based on all of the concerns that may have arised.
11 If there are not major concerns, then the permit can be
12 granted, and then it will be subject to harvest guidelines,
13 location, amount of harvest, how the plant is harvested.
14 These will also be regulated in the interest of ecological
15 sustainability, and not damaging the area or the species
16 unduly. So those are the primary ways in which this policy
17 relates to subsistence use.

18
19 The other changes, background has been added to the
20 -- references to ANILCA have been added to the background
21 section of the draft, the first part of the draft that's not
22 the actually -- actual policy section, but the background
23 section. There's an area called Existing Direction that
24 refers to national and also regional, various policy
25 direction that's already in existence that effects this
26 program. And added to that is now reference to ANILCA and
27 other direction that affects subsistence use, Alaska natives,
28 and our government-to-government relationship. And this is
29 meant to inform the reader about where some of this policy
30 development process comes from.

31
32 On page six, the subsistence use and personal use
33 definitions have been further clarified, and we added a
34 category called research use. This is a category for non --
35 well, for research use which does not have a commercial
36 product as its goal. So if someone were -- was collecting
37 plant specimens for an herbarium or doing some kind of
38 research collections that was not about developing a
39 commercial product, they would actually get a different kind
40 of a permit, so it falls into a personal category. Research
41 use, I'm kind of jumping down to three here is -- number
42 three here, research that is aimed toward commercial
43 collection, or development of a commercial product will be
44 treated as a commercial harvest, and subject to commercial
45 regulations. And any further direction that we get from the
46 national level. There is a policy right now being developed
47 at the national level about how to deal with these sort of
48 commercial research/development activities. So that's in
49 progress, and when that comes down, we will be implementing

50 that as well.

00212

1 And there are guidelines in this policy that helps
2 you, and this is again actually guidelines from the national
3 level, that help us to sort out whether or not something is
4 truly a non-commercial research, or whether it's commercial
5 research, and how we would permit that.

6
7 Earlier drafts had references to TLMP, and used
8 guidelines from within TLMP as guidelines in this policy.
9 We've removed those, because this is a regional policy, and
10 that's sort of a tier lower in terms of organization. And
11 the TLMP forest plan does not apply to the Chugach, therefore
12 we've kind of had to back off on that. And once this policy
13 is in place, then each forest will be able to expound on
14 whatever regulations apply to that forest based on the forest
15 plan.

16
17 Again, pages 9 through 11 do spell out in detail the
18 process and application you would have to go through before
19 it was actually permitted. This begins -- this involves
20 NEPA, it would go through the appropriate level NEPA
21 analysis. And specifically in there it says that all -- the
22 local tribes will receive a copy of the application, so they
23 don't have to actually go knocking on the door of the
24 district. Anybody else who is concerned about a particular
25 type of use can request permit -- copies of permit
26 applications. And somebody asked me the other day, well,
27 what if someone in Sitka was concerned about a certain type
28 of use in Juneau, they would then alert the Juneau Ranger
29 District, and say, hey, any applications you get on a certain
30 type of special forest product, could you please send to me,
31 and then that would happen. So it's open for review by any
32 publics and anybody could -- should be able to walk into a
33 district and let me see all your special forest product
34 permit applications you have up right now, and look at those.

35
36 And much of that was included based on the response
37 and the input received -- we received from tribes that wanted
38 to know how this process was going to occur and how they
39 could be involved. And that, you know, applies to any
40 subsistence user as well, can be involved in this.

41
42 MS. GARZA: Phyllis.

43
44 MS. WOOLWINE: Yes.

45
46 MS. GARZA: Off hand, can you say which
47 tribes have responded?

48
49 MS. WOOLWINE: Definitely Sitka Tribe

50 responded. We got the most organized and substantial

00213

1 response from Sitka Tribe, and it was very helpful. Also, we
2 got a response from Hydaburg. I know ANB responded, that's
3 not a tribe, but in Juneau we got a response from there.

4
5 MS. GARZA: KIC?

6
7 MS. WOOLWINE: Thank you, KIC responded. We
8 didn't get a lot, probably not as much responses as we had
9 hoped, and this is one reason why I'm continuing to encourage
10 tribes, just because our, quote, tribal review period is
11 over, that doesn't mean we're closing the door to tribal
12 input. In fact, consultation with tribes should be an
13 ongoing thing during policy development and after policy
14 development again at this local level, and at all levels. We
15 hope to continue to be receiving involvement from tribes
16 throughout the whole process.

17
18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: How many tribes have you
19 met with?

20
21 MS. WOOLWINE: How many have we met with?
22 Well, I can't really account for everybody who's been doing
23 the meeting. I know Bill Shuster in Chugach has been meeting
24 with tribes. James Lanos has met with a number of tribes. I
25 was in Petersburg last week, I was meeting with Sitka Tribe
26 this week. Dale Canon has met with tribes in his area.
27 James -- or excuse me, Nels has probably been talking to
28 tribes as well. So -- and in a way to me that's a good
29 thing, that there's a number of people doing a number of
30 things, and that's the way it should be. It should be a
31 branching out, and hopefully the rangers will continue to get
32 more and more involved in meeting with tribes as well.

33
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Do you have a mechanism for
35 compiling the results of those visits?

36
37 MS. WOOLWINE: Pretty much everything lands
38 on my desk, and all the input to the policy, and then I
39 incorporate it into the subsequent drafts.

40
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Thank you.

42
43 MS. WOOLWINE: And again we continue to
44 solicit input both from tribes and then also from the public
45 and the other agencies will be incorporated into the next --
46 the way the plan goes now, is that the next draft will be
47 then, and it includes this input from everybody, will then be
48 converted to a handbook policy, and then implemented, and
49 then we continue to refine from there, yeah.

00214

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly, Marilyn.

2
3 MS. GARZA: Just a point of information. I'm
4 not a very good member, but I am a member of the committee,
5 so I have been working with this document.

6
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: And what constitutes a good
8 member or not a good member?

9
10 MS. GARZA: Calling in all the time. I miss
11 a lot of meetings.

12
13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's a good member.
14 Marilyn, same problem.

15
16 MS. WILSON. No, I'm better than that. I'm
17 sorry, Dolly. I just wanted to know, did you get any input
18 from the Haines, the Chilkat and Chilkoot area up in Haines?

19
20 MS. WOOLWINE: No, we didn't.

21
22 MS. WILSON: Okay.

23
24 MS. WOOLWINE: You can go.....

25
26 MS. WILSON: Would it be good to.....

27
28 MS. WOOLWINE:got to mon (ph).

29
30 MS. WILSON: Okay. Do they have something to
31 follow or answer? Question?

32
33 MS. WOOLWINE: They've been sent the draft,
34 they've been sent the news release, they've been sent
35 letters, and so hopefully.....

36
37 MS. WILSON: They're busy getting their
38 office, and their infrastructure in order right now, so maybe
39 I can get an extra copy and take there and present it to
40 them.

41
42 MS. WOOLWINE: That would be excellent, and
43 we do have.....

44
45 MS. WILSON: If that will help.

46
47 MS. WOOLWINE:extra copies here.

48
49 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I thought you were going

50 to say they were busy getting their hooligan.

00215

1 MS. WILSON: Oh, not yet.

2

3 MS. RUDOLPH: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to
4 ask.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

7

8 MS. RUDOLPH: I'd like to follow-up on
9 Marilyn's comment. I know for a lot of things that come into
10 our office, I know how it gets stagnated at the desk there
11 and never goes out to the tribe, so we're not -- a lot of use
12 are not all familiar with what's coming into the tribal
13 office, and last year as the president, I tried to get the
14 board in working order, so that they knew what was coming and
15 a lot of times, like teenagers, SeaAlaska or someone would
16 call me as the president and give the information to me, and
17 then I would make sure it went out. So I would like to
18 follow up on what Marilyn said I think, of we as a Regional
19 Advisory Council can get that information out to tribal
20 members, too, you know, that it would help the process a
21 little bit, because it is a concern for us.

22

23 MS. WOOLWINE: That would really help. I
24 appreciate anybody helping with the reaching out, because we
25 on the Special Forest Products Task Group, we're just a
26 handful of people, and it's a really big region, so the more
27 people that are -- that become familiar with this policy, or
28 at least aware that it's there, and who branch out, help us
29 branch out and reach out to people, the better. That's
30 excellent.

31

32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Ma'am.

33

34 MS. McCONNELL: Are these -- is the release,
35 is that going out to the advisory committees in the
36 communities? The fish and game advisory committees, has
37 it.....

38

39 MS. WOOLWINE: It was.....

40

41 MS. McCONNELL:Will it be mailed to
42 them?

43

44 MS. WOOLWINE:sent to Fish and Game. I
45 don't have the actual list with me of everybody that it was
46 sent to, but we sent it to all the agencies, and hoped that
47 they would then disburse it appropriately within the agency.
48 And, of course, the news releases have been out, and we're
49 hoping that, you know, all -- anybody that we missed will see

50 that, and it's -- and I should say this right now, it's

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1 available for viewing on the internet, on the web, and it's
2 in the -- that web page is in the news release there, and in
3 the draft, and also any ranger district, anybody can go down
4 to any ranger district and get a copy as well. Or call and
5 have it sent.

6
7 There's one other change that's happened since we
8 last talked, and that's the possibility, and the interest of
9 cooperative management and also tribal autonomy is to also
10 make it available for tribes to apply for commercial permits
11 as a tribe, and then in turn do internal management within
12 the tribe of their members who are going to be doing
13 commercial harvest. So that's another possibility for
14 collaboration, and also self-management on the part of the
15 tribes. And that would involve -- it would still be subject
16 to all the regional policy regulations and everything. In
17 other words, if we say you can harvest, you know, 20 percent
18 of a certain kind of plant, you wouldn't be able to up to 50
19 percent, but you could say, you know, only ten percent, and
20 choose within the constraints of the regional policy and any
21 other national directives and laws that there are. And then
22 that would also be an opportunity for things like cooperative
23 monitoring efforts, and any other ways that tribes might be
24 interested in working with the Forest Service on the
25 development of this program. We can use all the help we can
26 get.

27
28 MS. McCONNELL: Phyllis, two issues came up
29 during our meeting at lunch today that could also apply to
30 what you're working with. We had talked about seaweed and
31 different uses that -- you know, things that people want to
32 do with it. And one concern we had was that there be local
33 and regional review before a permit is issued to someone for
34 a commercial use, and then the other one -- other concern we
35 had was that studies be done prior to issuing experimental
36 permits. That seems to be a common practice is to issue
37 experimental permits, at least in the state, and then follow
38 that up with studies. And we feel that it needs to be --
39 that's kind of putting the cart before the horse, so how is
40 that dealt with in here? Having not read through all this
41 document.....

42
43 MS. WOOLWINE: Uh-hum.

44
45 MS. McCONNELL:maybe you could.....

46
47 MS. WOOLWINE: Again I would point out on
48 page ten and actually the whole section on pages nine through
49 ten -- through 11, the project level process. It is turned

50 around in the Forest Service. We also feel that before you

00217

1 do anything, we need to hear what all of the concerns are and
2 decide whether to proceed with anything. All of these permit
3 applications would be subject to NEPA, and in the NEPA
4 process, public concerns, tribal concerns, anybody concern is
5 going to be solicited, and those are going to be addressed
6 before anything is acted upon.

7
8 One of the things it says in there, on page ten, all
9 permits, applications -- in the third paragraph, it says, all
10 permit applications, the permit applications will be made
11 available at the district office for access and review by any
12 member of the public. In addition, any groups or individuals
13 interested in specific plants or areas will receive copies of
14 pertinent applications for review as requested.

15
16 The next paragraph begins, local tribes shall be
17 directly notified of any commercial or research special
18 forest product permit applications within their use are in
19 the interest of government-to-government relations, et
20 cetera.

21
22 So, yes, our intent is to find out what the concerns
23 are, what the situation is before we issue a permit, and then
24 NEPA would also require that appropriate monitoring efforts
25 are lined up, that ecological concerns are addressed.....

26
27 MS. McCONNELL: Uh-hum.

28
29 MS. WOOLWINE:sustainability, quantity,
30 and in addition to any subsistence, cultural use, personal
31 use concerns that might be.

32
33 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. One thing that I think
34 that would be good to see in here is that the -- once again
35 that the advisory committees also need to receive
36 information, just like the local tribes are, that there's I
37 think too many times things are put out there for the general
38 public assuming that the general public is going to hear
39 about it, and I don't think that that's a good assumption to
40 make. There's too many times things just -- you just don't
41 ever hear about it until it's too late. And so I would urge
42 you to include the advice, and since that system already
43 exists, take advantage of it. In fact, I would urge you to
44 make sure that the advisory committees have received a copy
45 of this document that was set out, and not just assume that
46 the -- well.....

47
48 MS. WOOLWINE: Uh-hum.

49

MS. PHILLIPS:that the Division of

00218

1 Boards has taken care of that.

2

3 MS. WOOLWINE: So you're talking about this
4 advisory committee?

5

6 MS. PHILLIPS: No, I'm talking about the
7 local community advisory committees.

8

9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Fish and Game.

10

11 MS. PHILLIPS: The Fish and Game Advisory
12 Committees that used to work with the region -- that used to
13 make up the regional councils, and since the federal take
14 over, the local advisory committee have pretty much dropped
15 out of this whole system, and I think it's important that
16 they be included as much as possible. Work from the ground
17 up.

18

19 MS. WOOLWINE: Okay. Thank you. And I would
20 like to reiterate, excuse me, since it relates to that
21 question, and since it came up earlier.

22

23 MS. McCONNELL: Need some water?

24

25 MS. WOOLWINE: I do. That any use that falls
26 under the definition of ANILCA as subsistence use, including
27 the small scale customary trade and barter would not go
28 through this process that we're talking about. If somebody's
29 making baskets in Sitka or Pelican or Angoon or Wrangell --
30 thank you very much -- as part of a customary trade, they
31 would continue to do that as they already have, as a
32 customary trade activity. As long as it was something that
33 fell within that definition, we are not attempting to
34 regulate subsistence uses, and that does include that type of
35 customary trade and barter, and so there would be no permit
36 involved, no NEPA involved, no undue burdens by the Forest
37 Service to that activity.

38

39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Patty.

40

41 MS. PHILLIPS: What is the determination of
42 small-scale customary trade? I mean.....

43

44 MS. WOOLWINE: I thought that was your job.
45 Somebody mentioned a sum -- something happened in court where
46 it's -- that came up like \$5,000 for something. I can't
47 remember. But -- and there is a CFR now, and it's cited in
48 that existing direction.

49

MS. PHILLIPS: What's a CFR?

00219

1 MS. WOOLWINE: The Code of Federal
2 Regulations that we're bound to follow. It's in the existing
3 direction on page 2 -- the last one listed there, defines
4 customary trade as cash sale not otherwise prohibited by
5 state or federal law or regulation to support family -- oh,
6 excuse me, personal and family needs, and does not include
7 trade which constitutes a significant commercial enterprise.
8 That's 36 CFR 242.4. Page 2 of the draft, in the section of
9 36 CFR, the last bullet point.

10
11 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

12
13 MS. WOOLWINE: Yeah, whatever significant is,
14 and I'm told that's your job.

15
16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: What are we looking for?
17 This doesn't.....

18
19 MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman.

20
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Lonnie.

22
23 MR. ANDERSON: Phyllis, does this -- I know
24 there's a regulation that you can get so many feet of forest
25 timber for your own personal use. Is that affected by this
26 new regulation or not?

27
28 MS. WOOLWINE: This does not deal with what
29 we call convertible forest products, in other words, anything
30 that can be measured in standard cubic or board feet.

31
32 MR. ANDERSON: I was looking through this and
33 I didn't see that addressed.

34
35 MS. WOOLWINE: It's on the first page. I
36 think it's the first page. Yeah, toward the bottom in the
37 background. This material can generally be categorized --
38 well, I should start at the beginning. Special forest
39 products are defined as non-timber renewable natural
40 resources that can be used either for personal or commercial
41 use. This material can generally be categorized either as
42 convertible or nonconvertible forest products. Products such
43 as fuel wood, poles and shake bolts are referred to as
44 convertible products since they can be measured in standard
45 cubic or board feet. And just moving downward, this policy
46 only addresses the nonconvertible, in other words, the
47 berries, boughs.....

48
49 MS. McCONNELL: Bark, berries, moss.....

00220

1 MS. WOOLWINE: Bark, yes, there's.....

2
3 MS. McCONNELL:(Indiscernible --
4 simultaneous speech)

5
6 MS. WOOLWINE: Yeah, thank you, Mim.

7
8 MR. ANDERSON: Yeah, the reason I was asking,
9 I know that several individuals in Kake has went and got
10 enough timber to build their houses, and if -- and several
11 has bought little mills to do -- continue that procedure. I
12 was just wondering if that was going to be affected, if you
13 knew?

14
15 MS. WOOLWINE: The -- yeah, this policy
16 doesn't.....

17
18 MR. ANDERSON: Doesn't.

19
20 MS. WOOLWINE:address that stuff.

21
22 MR. ANDERSON: Now you can still get your
23 10,000 board feet.

24
25 MS. GARZA: Yeah.

26
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

28
29 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I would like to
30 thank Phyllis for all of the time that she's put into this
31 project. It's been on-going for two-ish years?

32
33 MS. WOOLWINE: About a year and a half.

34
35 MS. GARZA: A year and a half. And in
36 remembering what the initial draft looks like, this is a
37 very, very nice product. I think that the committee is still
38 interested in further comments and the more tribes that can
39 comment on it, I think the stronger it will be made. I can't
40 speak for Sitka Tribe, but I know that in looking at the
41 document that the committee has gone very far in trying to
42 incorporate all of the suggestions that have been made.

43
44 If this kind of process could be set up for game or
45 for our seaweeds or for other resources, probably all of the
46 subsistence issues that we have in the State could be much
47 more easily resolved. It provides us with customary and
48 traditional use, it provides us with protections, but it also
49 attempts to meet that objective that I know the Forest

50 Service has, and that's to have economic development

00221

1 opportunities besides chopping down a bunch of trees, which
2 is what we are basically opposed to as a Council. And so I
3 think this document is a very nice balance between the two,
4 and I know that it's the result of a lot of work and for that
5 I'd like to thank you.

6
7 MS. WOOLWINE: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I do
8 know that -- I think there were members of the public or the
9 tribe that wanted -- I think were saving their comments, and
10 I don't know if this -- that were about this. I don't know
11 if this is an appropriate time for them, or if you want to
12 wait until the end.

13
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: If they are, you have to
15 give them your chair.

16
17 MS. CRAIG: Hello, Mr. Chairman. My name is
18 Robbie Craig, and I work for the Sitka Tribe of Alaska. I
19 certainly can't speak for the tribe either, but I do work as
20 a staff person for their Kianie (ph) Commission, which is a
21 special commission the tribe has set up to deal just with
22 tradition plant use. It started about 18 months ago in
23 response to the Forest Service coming to STA to ask for
24 tribal involvement in the policies that -- or the guidelines
25 that Phyllis has been putting together.

26
27 Like Dolly, I would like to pass along some of the
28 things that came from our special commission meeting that we
29 had on Tuesday with Phyllis. Phyllis came in and had a
30 special meeting with the six commissioners, and our tribal
31 liaison wasn't there.

32
33 But anyway, some of the comments were:

34
35 One, a thank you for continuing to have devil's club
36 not be on the commercial list.

37
38 Two, a concern about spruce roots being on the
39 commercial list. And the reason for that is that some folks
40 here in Sitka go outside of the Sitka Tribe's traditional
41 territory to harvest these roots, and so they might not be
42 notified of any sort of commercial development that would be
43 going on in another community, and also they would have some
44 comments upon someone else's traditional territory, something
45 that was going on. And so the commission was concerned about
46 spruce roots being on the commercial list.

47
48 And I did try to get some commissioners here, but it
49 was late notice. They wanted to come, but there two doctors

50 appointments, so you get me, flunky staff person. But thank

00222

1 you for the opportunity to make these comments.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Is there
4 somebody else from the tribe?

5

6 MS. CRAIG: Oh, one other thing, too, is that
7 the commission is really interested in reaching out to other
8 communities that might want to become involved, and if any of
9 you folks from other commun -- or communities would want to
10 be -- to more about the Sitka Tribe's Kainie Commission or
11 would like to, I don't know, hook up some people from your
12 community who harvest plants with the Commission, you could
13 call me. My name is Robbie at STA, and I'd be happy to put
14 you in connection with those people and the commissioners.
15 Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Thank you. Other
18 Forest Service people? Do you need two? I think -- okay.
19 You're one. Okay. Tell us who you are?

20

21 MS. MARSHALL: Okay. My name is Marty
22 Marshall, and I'm the recreation specialist here in the
23 Chatham area of the Tongass National Forest. I've been asked
24 kind of at short notice to come in and perhaps answer some
25 questions, and at least give you a briefing on some -- two
26 different planning efforts that we're involved in.

27

28 As you know, the Forest Service requires, through
29 NEPA, the National Environmental Policy Act, that we consider
30 environmental consequences of actions authorized on the
31 national forest. So since 1990 we've been authorizing
32 limited types of outfitting and guiding under two different
33 decisions and environmental analyses, or EAs. And our last
34 one just expired in December of 1998. So I'm undertaking an
35 outfitter/ guide analysis tied to a recreation carrying
36 capacity analysis. I'm focusing on salt water shoreline
37 based activities, because as some of you might suspect, the
38 majority of our use does occur within a quarter or half a
39 mile of the shoreline, and rather than take on the whole
40 world, although I feel like I'm taking on the whole world.
41 I'm analyzing four different ranger districts: Hoonah,
42 Sitka, Admiralty Island National Monument, and Juneau. So
43 there's thousands of miles of shoreline.

44

45 Because we've been hearing concerns about increased
46 use, and especially increased commercial use, and people have
47 been identifying hot spots, or areas that it's just getting
48 too crowded for them, we've committed to undertaking the
49 recreation carrying capacity analysis as background

50 information for the outfitter/guide EA. And I'll use the

00223

1 bear guides as an example.

2

3 Since the early 90s, the brown bear guides in Unit 4,
4 which is Admiralty, Baranof and Chichagof Island, have been
5 complaining pretty loudly about crowding. They had major
6 concerns about crowding, but they also had some concerns
7 about the harvest rate of brown bears. And I say this quite
8 a bit, I liken them to the canaries in the mine shafts.
9 They're the first ones to cry out, because they require
10 probably the most extreme amount of solitude and remoteness
11 in order to conduct successful hunts. So they've been
12 complaining about their concerns, about crowding and bear
13 population and harvest levels.

14

15 And as you know, the Forest Service manages the
16 studying and the experience, then we also have some federal
17 subsistence responsibilities, but we do not manage the bears.
18 So any decision that we make related to brown bear guides
19 would affect the harvest level. And it was very clear that
20 in order to -- to make the best decision we could, we needed
21 to work collaboratively with the State. And I'm working very
22 closely with ADF&G, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, to
23 propose appropriate number of brown bear hunts in each guide
24 use area of Unit 4. We're doing that, we're looking at both
25 the biological considerations, and also the social
26 considerations, and almost always in this instance, the
27 biological considerations are the most limiting factor.

28

29 Still, we're going to continue to work
30 collaboratively with the State on this process, but you need
31 to know that the process I'm involved in is looking at all
32 types of outfitting and guiding. The brown bear guides have
33 gotten a lot of press and a lot of interest, but we're
34 looking at other types of guiding, too: the sightseeing and
35 freshwater fishing guides. And interest is very high, and
36 the State has also approached me about being involved with
37 the fresh water fishing, because we're starting to have
38 concerns about some specific drainages.

39

40 Some of you, I see some faces that were at the
41 Southeast Alaska Tourism Symposium last week, and the
42 interest is incredibly high as it relates to uses on the
43 national forest, and also the percentage that will be
44 allocated to commercial uses versus noncommercial uses.

45

46 So I am going to pass around -- I only brought four
47 copies of our complete package. It's pretty lengthy reading,
48 but it's our recreation carrying capacity analysis, and the
49 proposed action. We're at the very beginning of the process.

50 We've done public scoping, which is what we call soliciting

00224

1 public comment on our proposed action, and on the carrying
2 capacity analysis. We have not started the environmental
3 analysis yet, we're still in the process of considering
4 everybody's comments. I've done about seven public meetings.
5 I'm willing to come out and speak with any group or
6 community. I'm still trying to get to Angoon, had some
7 problems with the weather this winter, but did make it to
8 Tenakee and Hoonah, Sitka and Juneau, and then some -- Sitka
9 Conservation Society invited me to speak with them, as did
10 Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Association.

11
12 So tied to this project, and specifically the bear
13 guides, the Board of Games directed a brown bear management
14 team be formed to make recommendations to the Board of Game,
15 and to the Forest Service. They heard a significant amount
16 of comments and concerns at their October meeting down in
17 Ketchikan related to Admiralty, Baranof, and Chichagof
18 Islands. And the State -- Alaska Department of Fish and Game
19 did a great job of trying to solicit comments. They wanted a
20 broad range of stakeholders on the team. And I'll pass
21 around. These are the -- let me keep one, the members that
22 were on that were selected to be on this management team.
23 And as you can see, there's a real range of people
24 representing different viewpoints on the team. And I've been
25 very gratified. It's been a wonderful working group. It's
26 been one of the best that I've worked on.

27
28 I'm just wondering, I'm just giving you a really
29 quick overview, and it is -- my project is specifically
30 related to appropriate levels of use for outfitting and
31 guiding, shoreline based outfitting and guiding, and as I
32 mentioned in the environmental analysis, we will fully
33 consider subsistence uses. We have received one or two
34 comments about subsistence uses, especially marine species.

35
36 And one of the big topics that came up at the
37 Southeast Alaska Tourism Symposium was jurisdictional issues,
38 that we don't manage the saltwater or the tidelands, and we
39 only manage the uplands. So I'm actually pretty optimistic
40 -- well, maybe not real optimistic, but I'm hopeful. The
41 State seems interested. Perhaps we can work more closely
42 together so that we have shared objectives for the salt water
43 bays and the uplands.

44
45 Are there any questions?

46
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No. It sees that you've
48 got a pretty good handle on it, so.....

49

MS. MARSHALL: Well, I hope if any of you are

00225

1 specifically interested, you'll sign the sheet and I'll mail
2 you the full package, and I'll be happy to keep you on the
3 mailing list. Yeah, Joy. Oh.

4
5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Gabe.

6
7 MR. GEORGE: Tom Paul called me up and.....

8
9 MS. MARSHALL: Uh-hum.

10
11 MR. GEORGE:you know, asked if I was
12 interested to get on -- be a part of this management team
13 members, and then he -- after he asked that, he said, you
14 know, he'd like somebody from the Regional Counsels, who's on
15 the Regional Council, so that sort of drifted out, and I told
16 him to call Bill. I was wondering if there was any
17 correspondence or if there was any response from Bill or --
18 of both -- Bill or somebody to -- on the -- to be a part of
19 the management team.

20
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, I didn't get a call
22 from him.

23
24 MR GEORGE: Because he called me twice and I told him
25 to call you guys.

26
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Ida.

28
29 MS. MARSHALL: Dick, we'll need to follow up
30 on that.

31
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Ida will serve on there.

33
34 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff
35 Committee member. Just for your information, Mr. Chairman,
36 the topic of guides and outfitters in other regional council
37 is of extreme high interest at this time, and they want to be
38 involved with the process or know what the process is.

39
40 MS. MARSHALL: And I will offer again to meet
41 with anyone, if you'd like a more in-depth briefing. Also,
42 let me tell you our time line. We're hoping to have the
43 environmental analysis out by late summer, and that is
44 optimistic, but I think it's important. And when it is out,
45 we'll identify our preferred alternative, and then receive
46 public comments on the whole EA. And then take comments back
47 again, and then the decisionmaker, which is the Assistant
48 Forest Supervisor, will make a decision.

49

CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. If there's anybody

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1 interested, get with her some time during the day or you can
2 spend a week here if you want, but whoever -- Mim.

3

4 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah, I'm just wondering,
5 following up on what Gabe said, perhaps if the Council were
6 in agreement, someone from the Council could be appointed to
7 serve on this management team.

8

9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's what I just said.

10

11 MS. McCONNELL: That was -- I thought you
12 were talking about the other.....

13

14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No. Anybody who wants to
15 be part of that time.....

16

17 MS. MARSHALL: I would urge someone.....

18

19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS:get with them.

20

21 MS. MARSHALL:I think it is a
22 whole.....

23

24 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah.

25

26 MS. MARSHALL:in our team.

27

28 MS. McCONNELL: Uh-hum.

29

30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: A what?

31

32 MS. MARSHALL: I do think it is a hole in our
33 brown bear management team, and I think it would be excellent
34 if somebody could come to the next meeting. If you're
35 interested, get ahold of Tom Paul at ADF&G in Juneau. Or all
36 of you could come if you'd like. They are open meetings.

37

38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Thank you.

39

40 MS. McCONNELL: Thanks. What was her name
41 again?

42

43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We need your name again?

44

45 MS. MARSHALL: Marty Marshall.

46

47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Forest Service
48 Number Three. I thought you were four, and I thought you
49 needed two people.

00227

1 MR. SCHROEDER: I don't know if I'm.....

2
3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You're number four, Robert.

4
5 MR. SCHROEDER: I am?

6
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You're the low man, you're
8 the latest getting here, you.....

9
10 MR. SCHROEDER: Is someone else on board
11 here?

12
13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Ted Loutenberg is
14 supposed to be here, but I don't know if he's here or not.

15
16 MR. SCHROEDER: I don't see Ted right here.
17 Maybe he's coming.

18
19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. You've got it. If
20 they're not here, you've got it.

21
22 MR. SCHROEDER: Well, I use to be Fish & Game
23 Number One, and now I'm Forest Service Number Three or four.

24
25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Four.

26
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So I don't know if I'm
28 moving up or down. I won't take a whole lot of time today,
29 because I think there are quite a few other people who want
30 to present to the Council. By way of introduction, I was
31 thinking how the Forestry Sciences Lab hasn't attended a
32 whole lot of meetings, and let you know what the Forestry
33 Sciences Lab does. And now today you've got two people from
34 Forestry Sciences Lab on your agenda. That's kind of
35 peculiar, because Ted also comes from that same structure.

36
37 The Forestry Science Lab is basically the research
38 branch of Forest Service. It's organized under a station
39 system, so the Juneau Forestry Sciences Lab and the Sitka
40 Forest Products Lab will be under the Portland, Pacific
41 Northwest Research Station. What the lab's mission has been
42 for -- since its founding many years ago, has been to try to
43 provide a science base for management decisions on national
44 forest lands, so it has a related goal to the things that
45 forest managers are doing, but its approach would be to
46 pursue long-term research activities that would form the
47 basic information upon which management decisions might be
48 based.

49

So far, from what I've figured out over the last few

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1 months of working at the lab, we're basically at kind of a
2 beginning stage of looking at social and cultural variables.
3 And I think that's been something of a success of groups like
4 the Regional Council, and then the other public input
5 activities that, looking around, know all of you have spent
6 probably too many years of your life doing, such that we've
7 been able to -- government agencies have been able to get a
8 good deal of public opinion, and value information and
9 cultural information directly from affected citizens, who
10 come to meetings and weigh in and read through drafts and
11 attend yet more meetings and comment on plans.

12
13 I think overall we're at a stage of development where
14 that input may not be exactly enough, because there may be
15 major differences of opinion out there that don't get
16 represented very clearly in an open public process, or at
17 least the result of the open public process may be different
18 from what people think out there. I was thinking about that
19 when Mike Turek was showing the results of some attitude and
20 value questions on deer on Prince of Wales in his
21 presentation this morning. And when I worked with Mike on
22 that, I think we frankly thought that when you ask people
23 what do you think of deer harvest on Prince of Wales Island,
24 I think we sort of thought the answers might come out a
25 little bit differently, just based on talked to a lot of
26 people on Prince of Wales, spending time in the communities,
27 and -- but in fact the results maybe were -- came out
28 different from our preconceptions.

29
30 So I think one state of things that we're engaged in
31 right now is figuring out a way of taking science, which is
32 what a forestry sciences lab does, or what social scientists
33 do, and apply that science to human behaviors and attitudes.
34 Now, probably in the area of subsistence we're further along
35 than in other areas of inquiry, because for the past 20 years
36 now almost, we've had to measure things and find out where
37 people go, and basically try to do the best we can to track
38 subsistence uses, and to say what they are, such that they
39 would fit through that narrow window that was there in the
40 regulations, whether it was the eight criteria, or
41 potentially competitive and demanding requirements of State
42 Board of Game and Board of Fisheries regulations, or equally
43 strict requirements where you had to really make your case
44 and prove that subsistence was important in Forest Service
45 planning. So I think subsistence is kind of a little bit
46 further along than in some other areas.

47
48 That segues in nicely such that I can tell you
49 quickly what I'm up to. The -- I have a number of project

50 areas that I'm hoping to make some progress in over the next

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1 year. The one that's most familiar is, of course,
2 subsistence, a lot because of this Council's support, and
3 from support from the tribes and communities, subsistence and
4 doing basic subsistence research has continued to be a top
5 priority for the National Forest System, and a piece of that
6 goes over to the lab. This year the lab is funding
7 continuing the updating work of baseline harvest assessment
8 data, which I know over the years the Council has supported
9 strongly in letters to the appropriate sources, saying that
10 this is what you need to -- is one piece of what you need to
11 manage subsistence resources effectively.

12
13 Very critically this year here former Council
14 coordinator Carol Jorgenson, who is now one of the masters in
15 the forest, was a strong support for continuing basic
16 subsistence research of this type, and figured out a
17 budgetary way of doing it, because it simply costs a fair
18 amount of money to go out there and do interviews correctly
19 so that you have data that you can stand by. So we're hoping
20 to continue with that, and there's another couple of years of
21 funding, of work to be done to complete a round of harvest
22 assessments in all of Southeast Alaska communities, so that
23 would be next year and the following year. And then, guess
24 what, you get to take a year off and then you do it all over
25 again, because by that time it will be five or six years
26 since we've looked at things in communities.

27
28 One interesting result -- now, the reason for doing
29 the updates was so that we had accurate knowledge about
30 what's happening today, and so that's the way we represented
31 that as an important project to do, and I think why you
32 supported it.

33
34 We have had the ability to, however, to compare
35 what's going on in subsistence harvest ten years ago with
36 ones that -- with the contemporary harvest. And I frankly
37 thought there would be a fair amount of change over ten
38 years. The previous harvests were -- harvest surveys were
39 done in 1988, covering 1987, and the Division of
40 Subsistence's recent work has covered harvest years of 1998
41 and '97 respectively, so we had a ten-year time interval
42 there. And if you think of your communities, a lot of change
43 has gone on in that ten years, both just the basic
44 demography's changed, the number of people in places, who
45 those people are has changed, the economic situation has gone
46 probably generally down, so that there's quite a bit less
47 money around. There would be other things that you could,
48 you know, have -- someone might have a hypothesis about, that
49 perhaps subsistence is getting less important to people,

50 perhaps customary and traditional harvests aren't as central

00230

1 to what people are about as they once were. We also have
2 things that change in just species abundance and
3 distribution. So over ten years you have a lot of change.

4
5 The remarkable thing is that our subsistence harvests
6 are basically fairly consistent over that ten-year time
7 period. That is, that people in Angoon and Kake and Craig
8 and Klawock and the other plac -- and Sitka, where we've been
9 able to do these updates, are harvesting at about the same
10 level as they were in 1987, our previous base year.

11
12 Another -- so I sort of think that, you know, pats
13 yourselves on the back since you've been working on
14 subsistence, because at least at that level, we've -- you've
15 been successful in ensuring that subsistence harvest
16 continue.

17
18 I think there also needs to be some credit to those
19 people, both in public side and on Forest Service side, as
20 well as the State, who have worked to mitigate or limit the
21 impact of the timber program on subsistence harvest. At
22 least using this level of measure, we're not really showing
23 that subsistence harvest are down, because of the habitat
24 changes that have taken place. Other things may have
25 changed. It may be that in some places, in Prince of Wales,
26 it's harder to get your deer, so maybe you've got to work
27 harder, but the general harvest level has been maintained.

28
29 So one continuing research effort will be in
30 subsistence, and I'll point out that I don't thin that
31 harvest estimation is the start and end of what subsistence
32 research should be about, and we've identified -- Fred Clark,
33 when he was in his role as the council coordinator, and I
34 worked through a list of what we felt were data needs for
35 subsistence in Southeast Alaska, and I think at different
36 times I've circulated this to you, and I'm not going to give
37 it to you again. But let's just say that there are quite a
38 few other things that should be in your file when you're
39 dealing with the subsistence resource issues that are coming
40 your way.

41
42 Obviously, in the coming year fisheries is going --
43 may very well be much more important, and I'm hoping that the
44 Council will work to provide some guidance on what sort of
45 data needs you have to make decisions that are going to be
46 coming your way.

47
48 A second research area that I was able to get
49 started, and this was again with some encouragement from

50 Fred, was to start doing some research on traditional

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1 ecological knowledge. So, again, the research program,
2 research is sort of a peculiar endeavor. It's kind of -- it
3 -- you get to have a magnifying glass and look at one small
4 thing real exhaustively, and hopefully be able to describe it
5 real well. So as a start for dealing with TEK, we're going
6 through all the literature on -- the written stuff on
7 Tlingits, Tlingit culture for Southeast Alaska, and
8 attempting to pull out the themes, the attitudes, values, and
9 world view that is reflected in that literature. And to --
10 basically I see the literature as being something that was
11 created jointly by elders and community residents who gave
12 their time to anthropologists, social scientists and
13 planners, and we worked together and wrote the stuff down.
14 And so the effort at this moment is to use that history, to
15 identify these themes.

16
17 The second phase of this project will consist of
18 conducting some set of interviews with standard bearers in
19 Southeast Alaska, and I'm simply raising this right now, and
20 I'd like to contact you through the Council system when we're
21 a little further along, to identify who those people might
22 be, and to figure out the best way of approaching that. The
23 idea there would be to see that -- to what extent the themes
24 and attitudes and values that we find in the literature are
25 ones that are important right now, and can they be amplified?
26 Can you tell me more about these things? So that's the
27 traditional ecological knowledge project.

28
29 I'll slide over a couple of other projects, although
30 -- well, let me insert at this point, that as things develop,
31 I'd like to use the Council to route various research plans
32 to develop for the region, and just to get your comments.
33 And since we've worked together for a number of years, I hope
34 they'll be real frank, and that you'll be encouraging when
35 they should be -- when they deserve encouragement, and also
36 let me know when you think that things should go in a
37 different direction.

38
39 A couple of other areas of research, one will be
40 starting to look at tourism and recreation, which really
41 doesn't have -- directly to deal with subsistence.

42
43 A fourth project area has to do with public research
44 on alternative to clear-cut logging, and seeing what public
45 attitudes, values and world view might be related to that
46 topic. Those of you who have been down Peril Straits may
47 have noticed a research project on the southside where
48 different chunks, 40-acre chunks of forest were cut in
49 different ways. That's the biophysical side of this

50 alternatives to clear-cut project wherein various biophysical

00232

1 things are measured before and after. The social evaluation,
2 or figuring out the social acceptability of different ways of
3 cutting the forest are yet to be investigated.

4
5 The last area that I'd mention will be that I'm
6 working up a regional survey to take place in Southeast
7 Alaska on general forest management issues, including some
8 components on subsistence, on alternatives to clear-cutting,
9 and on the impact of tourism. This will likely -- if I'm
10 lucky, I'll get through the permit -- the approval phases,
11 and this would happen sometime in February. This survey will
12 be a region wide survey, but it will include a large enough
13 sample so we can talk about native Alaska in Southeast
14 Alaska, as well as urban Alaska, et cetera. We can do those
15 breakouts. This particular effort will include these newer
16 topics that I mentioned. It will also allow us to compare
17 with a survey that was done fully 20 years ago to see how the
18 region's changed. What I suspect we're going to find is that
19 on some important issue, some of our preconceptions about
20 what the general populace out there, the people who don't
21 come to meetings thinks about things, and how they view the
22 world.

23
24 I think that's about all I've got right now, except
25 to say that I really like being back, and seeing you, seeing
26 the Council one more time, and hopefully we'll have a chance
27 to work more together in the future, and if there are any
28 questions about anything, this would be the time for it.

29
30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It's always a pleasure to
31 have you, and it sounds like you're off and running on your
32 new assignment. I have several observations in your
33 comments. I don't think they're of any consequence.

34
35 Earlier you made reference to a customary and
36 traditional harvest, and then you mentioned a subsistence
37 harvest. Did you mean for those to be synonymous or is there
38 a difference?

39
40 MR. SCHROEDER: I'm just interested in what
41 people are doing out there, and I'll leave it up to someone
42 else to decide whether it's subsistence or customary and
43 traditional. I'll even -- will.....

44
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, you made the.....

46
47 MR. SCHROEDER: even choose between those
48 two.

49

CHAIRMAN THOMAS:you made the

00233

1 reference, that's why I'm asking you.

2

3 MR. SCHROEDER: Okay.

4

5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Now, you mentioned
6 for a selection of what kind of data we would need for us to
7 do our job, and essentially the only thing the Board asks us
8 for is that the recommendations we bring to them have a
9 biological support and accepted management practices.
10 Essentially those are the two types of data that.....

11

12 MR. SCHROEDER: Uh-hum.

13

14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS:we'll need. And in
15 Ketchikan I saw a bumper sticker that said, if there's a
16 tourist season, what's the bag limit.

17

18 Mim.

19

20 MS. McCONNELL: Speaking of forest, I
21 wouldn't make the assumption that your project on recreation
22 and tourism doesn't -- wouldn't be of interest to us. What
23 does that involve, if you can go into any details now?

24

25 MR. SCHROEDER: Well, basically what I'm up
26 to, this current survey after -- which we'll try to get into
27 next February, will be a survey of area residents. The other
28 two pieces of that would be to have a contact with people who
29 visit the Tongass, and the third piece has to do with an
30 estimation of national opinion, so those two pieces I'm not
31 worried about right now, so I'm dealing with the Southeast
32 residents.

33

34 And some of the things I'd like to look at there
35 would be impact of tourism. I'd like to see if there's some
36 way of operationalizing some of the carrying capacity
37 questions that Marty has been looking at, looking at impact,
38 looking at what people would like to have in the future. If
39 I'm capable of figuring out a good way of doing it, I'd like
40 people to -- I'd like to use the survey instrument as a way
41 to point to what we want in the future, and not simply one
42 year down the line, but what would we like our environment to
43 be at five or ten years. We're a little bit open right now.

44

45 As things just -- the plan for this survey will go to
46 a regular -- something that looks like a proposal, and I'm
47 hoping that a draft will be out which would include at least
48 the topic areas if not the questions sometime around in late
49 May or June. And then that would go around, and that's when

50 I'll expect a lot of red ink to get used up, and people

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1 trying to get their favorite questions in, and we'll see what
2 can fit. So that's about as far as I can go right now.

3

4 MS. McCONNELL: Okay. Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

7

8 MS. WILSON: I just want to know, Bob, what
9 standard bearer means? Because you mentioned that in
10 your.....

11

12 MR. SCHROEDER: Well.....

13

14 MS. WILSON: I have no idea.

15

16 MR. SCHROEDER: What I was -- I'm hoping that
17 you're going to help me to find that, in that when we're
18 talking about traditional ecological knowledge, the first
19 thought was, well, what we should do is when we do the
20 interviews to test our understanding, and to expand our
21 knowledge of -- our understanding of the traditional
22 ecological knowledge of the Tlingit view of the forest and
23 resources, I first thought that, well, we should interview
24 elders. And obviously elders are a piece of the equation.
25 But then I was thinking that there also may be other people
26 who are very knowledgeable, who simply haven't hit 70 years
27 of age yet, and so that's why I was using the standard
28 bearer.

29

30 MS. WILSON: Okay. That helped.

31

32 MR. SCHROEDER: So the elders in training.

33

34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Anybody else?

35

36 MR. SCHROEDER: Let's see. Dave had an item
37 that he wanted me to mention. He and I haven't had a great
38 deal of time to talk about this, but part of TLMP
39 implementation, this is sort of a different hat, involves
40 deciding on what needs to be done for monitoring the impacts
41 of plant on subsistence. And.....

42

43 MS. McCONNELL: Could you repeat that,
44 please?

45

46 MR. SCHROEDER: The Tongass Land Management
47 Plan implementation calls for -- you know, I found -- I wrote
48 to a friend after doing this job for a couple months, and he
49 said, you know, it sounds like the same old guy, but what are

50 all these acronyms for? You know? And then I've been really

00235

1 watching it since then. But the Tongass Land Management Plan
2 has in it is a requirement for monitoring effects on
3 subsistence, and I think -- I haven't done anything on this.
4 Dave is going to carry the flag a bit on this, but it is
5 something that fits in this presentation to say it's, you
6 know, more thing that probably the Council should be aware
7 of, and my suggestion, Dave, would be to just use the routing
8 system, and to -- when items develop in that subsistence
9 monitoring, to make sure it gets out to Council members,
10 unless there's one or two Council members who want to take
11 that on as a possible task to be contacts.

12
13 MR. JOHNSON: Well, I think in the past, the
14 Council can correct me if I'm wrong, that the Council has
15 actually requested to be involved, I believe, with TPIT, this
16 is another acronym for the Tongass Plan Implementation Team.
17 Again, correct me if I'm wrong about that. My memory's not
18 what it used to be, but it seems I distinctly recall from
19 previous meetings. And I'm not sure how that has occurred or
20 not occurred, because partly we're just now beginning to get
21 into the actual monitoring side of the forest plan. And as
22 you know also, the forest plan is still under appeal on a
23 number of different things, including subsistence, which
24 again would have some effect on what the Council's
25 involvement may or may not want to be. So I just wanted to
26 revisit that topic and let you know that I'm open. I'm the
27 -- I forget my formal title, but it's -- road kill monitoring
28 I think is the appropriate term. But Bob is also a part of
29 that with the Forestry Sciences Lab, and again this is --
30 we're just moving into this, so I want to make sure the
31 Council is aware of that.

32
33 MR. SCHROEDER: Just maybe one final thing,
34 and that would be I'd really encourage the Council to, you
35 know, call me up on various things where you think I may be
36 able to have some input. I am finding things that even
37 though Alaska believes itself to be a separate country, maybe
38 even a separate planet, that there are things that happen
39 Outside of Alaska that may be pretty relevant to issues that
40 we're faced with.

41
42 I was talking over lunch with Phyllis about the idea
43 of cultural plants as being a management category that is
44 being pursued by some tribes in Washington and Oregon State,
45 to exercise some control over the plant harvest on the lands
46 that tribes had to cede to the Federal Government when they
47 formed their reservations, so I'm trying to get some
48 information on that, and who knows, that might be relevant,
49 but there are some things that are going on that I think we

50 can draw on elsewhere.

00236

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, let me say one thing.
2 I think we're getting into a rut that really makes it
3 cumbersome. We sit here with a bewildered expression at best
4 as some of these comments or suggestions or implications or
5 innuendoes or -- you know, if something with a definite
6 description, a definite request, a definite need, a definite
7 assignment, something with definition to it could be
8 presented to us, we'd be in better shape to respond, but to
9 bring us -- to bring us something or offer us something
10 that's almost there, or might not quite be there, or might
11 not be quite in reach is really difficult for us to work
12 with. We're not faulting you, I'm just expressing some
13 frustration as the result of that. And so, you know, the
14 more we understand, where we're advisory, we're local
15 community, the stuff you bring to us, or stuff that comes
16 from other planets, and, you know, we need to have some sense
17 for what you really want, or what you -- what end result you
18 want to have. We're facing that now with the Board, with
19 respect to c&t's, and I would really like for the Council to
20 be relieved of that somehow with just better information.
21 Other than that, good presentation. Thank you.

22
23 MR. SCHROEDER: Thanks, Bill. I'm also
24 priming you for sending some research designs your way, and
25 it will get specific comments. And then you'll remember that
26 I told you about it, that you wanted to see specific things,
27 and then I get them to you.

28
29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, tell me.

30
31 MR. SCHROEDER: Well, I just want to know if
32 there's a doe season, Bill?

33
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Depends. Thank you. Oh,
35 Mim.

36
37 MS. McCONNELL: I've just -- you said
38 something about the subsistence monitoring thing, that you
39 wanted some Council members involved in, right?

40
41 MR. SCHROEDER: Well, Mim, that's basically a
42 Dave Johnson item, and I think that the message, right, you
43 know, to be very specific, would be that something has to
44 happen on subsistence monitoring. We don't know what. When
45 it does, the Council has to weigh in.

46
47 MS. McCONNELL: You'll let us know?

48
49 MR. SCHROEDER: Dave will let you know.

00237

1 MS. McCONNELL: Dave will let us know.

2
3 MR. JOHNSON: Dave Johnson will get something
4 to the Council with more specific information regarding the
5 need for the Council's involvement in the Forest Plan
6 Monitoring Program.

7
8 MS. McCONNELL: Good.

9
10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Patty.

11
12 MR. JOHNSON: Did you capture that?

13
14 MS. McCONNELL: Thank you, Dave.

15
16 MR. SCHROEDER: Thank you.

17
18 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, a comment. Bob,
19 wait a minute.

20
21 MR. SCHROEDER: I'm not free.

22
23 MS. PHILLIPS: No, you're not. I had -- I
24 was the one who requested that the Regional Council be
25 involved in the TIMP Team, and mostly I wanted someone with
26 subsistence knowledge on that team, whether it be a Regional
27 Council member, or someone with -- from Staff that has
28 subsistence knowledge. And I just want to say that I'm
29 really pleased that the Forest Service was able to recruit
30 Bob Schroeder into his position, because that was one of the
31 things that I have really voiced concern about is that in the
32 past, in some positions they have recruited staff members
33 that don't have the knowledge of subsistence people, and
34 thank you, Bob, for applying for that position, because you
35 really have a lot of knowledge and experience behind you, and
36 so I feel like I can count on some decisions being made that
37 really, truly have subsistence behind it.

38
39 MR. SCHROEDER: Well, thank you, Patty. I
40 hope I can live up to your flattery. Your compliments.

41
42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You asked for us to let you
43 know one way or the other. Thank you, Robert. Mim.

44
45 MS. McCONNELL: Just real quick, the -- back
46 to I'm thinking, my mind is stuck on Council involvement on
47 stuff, and I was mulling over this bear management team
48 thing. I was just -- I'd hate to let that drop. Is some --
49 is there anyone on the Council that is interested in being

50 involved in that?

00238

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I asked that question, and
2 they said that we can.....

3
4 MS. McCONNELL: Well, did.....

5
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS:with them.

7
8 MS. McCONNELL: Okay. Well, if nobody does?

9
10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You're nominated.
11 Well.....

12
13 MS. McCONNELL: I don't want.....

14
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Right now.....

16
17 MS. McCONNELL:I don't necessarily want
18 to be nominated.

19
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Right now I want to get
21 through the agenda, and we can take care of that when we do.
22 Mimi Hogan.

23
24 MR. WILLIS: Can I have a mic, please?

25
26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Are you Mimi?

27
28 (Off record comments)

29
30 MR. WILLIS: I'll make this very quick and
31 specific, Bill. I bring apologies from the Migratory Bird
32 Branch. We were supposed to have Mimi here, and she couldn't
33 make it, and then her backup also had a conflict, and we
34 don't really have a presentation. You have in your book
35 updated material, which Bob Stevenson with Migratory Birds
36 tells me there's nothing really new that he could have added
37 to this, except for a couple of items that I'll mention to
38 you.

39
40 There was a meeting held in Juneau on the 17th of
41 February to discuss the migratory bird issue. The summary
42 you have in your book gives a summary of comments of the
43 various meetings that have been held over the state. Herman
44 was in attendance at the Juneau meeting, and he may have
45 something that he wants to add from that.

46
47 The only thing new to add at this point is that Bob
48 tells me that the draft plan for how these advisory groups
49 for the Migratory Bird Treaty Plan changes is expected to be

50 out in early April. They have it now, but it hasn't gone

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1 through internal review yet. They expect it to be out in
2 early April, and there will be a 90-day comment period at
3 which time you'll be able to comment on these various
4 alternatives that are being considered for the structure of
5 those advisory groups who will recommend changes in the treat
6 -- in the migratory bird regulations.

7
8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Can you think of anything
9 you want to add to that? No, you said it all. Thank you.

10
11 National Park Service.

12
13 MR. CAPRA: I'm Jim Capra with the National
14 Park Service from Glacier Bay up in Yakutat. I don't have
15 much new since the last meeting. I don't remember the
16 timing, but we did get a new superintendent about the time
17 that the last meeting occurred. I don't know if I mentioned
18 that. Her name is Tommy Patrick Lee, came up from Arizona,
19 and is doing well. If you go into Gustavus, she would be
20 more than happy to talk to folks. Mary has -- she's been to
21 Hoonah a few times and met Mary.

22
23 The Glacier Bay has been in the news a little bit
24 with fish lately, and the good news from that is some of that
25 may -- at least we will get research money for fish, and some
26 of that may spill over into subsistence.

27
28 That is what is new with Glacier Bay. I just didn't
29 have much new to report.

30
31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I am finding more interest
32 on the street in Ketchikan with regard to Glacier Bay, and
33 this time there's some sympathy starting to surface now for
34 the people of Glacier Bay. And does the Park Service hear
35 those same sentiments?

36
37 MR. CAPRA: Which people of Glacier Bay?
38 There's.....

39
40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, the people from
41 Sitka, people from Hoonah.

42
43 MR. CAPRA: Uh-hum.

44
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Those that are
46 traditionally there, their ancestral grounds.

47
48 MR. CAPRA: Uh-hum.

49

CHAIRMAN THOMAS: And has the Park Service

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1 done anything towards acknowledging that?

2

3 MR. CAPRA: Yes. We've been working.....

4

5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: In a positive sense I
6 should say.

7

8 MR. CAPRA: Yeah. We've been working with
9 Hoonah specifically Hoonah Indian Association on somehow
10 allowing traditional activities in the Bay, and I can't
11 report a lot of progress on most, but on the egg gathering,
12 there's.....

13

14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Don't answer now, but in
15 the future, I'll probably be asking for rationale on the
16 reasons for the existing restrictions with regard to degree
17 of anticipated impact and what would those findings be based
18 on.

19

20 MR. CAPRA: Uh-hum.

21

22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Not so now, but in the
23 future they'll come up and they'll come up pretty strong.

24

25 MR. CAPRA: Uh-hum.

26

27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Any questions for Jim?

28

29 MS. WILSON: I just wanted to say something.
30 I used to live in Hoonah. Mary remembers when we were kids.
31 And I remember we used to eat the sea gull eggs. And then
32 when I grew up and I moved away from there, I only stayed
33 there a couple years, but I moved away, and when I was older,
34 I heard, well, it's now against the law. You can't eat the
35 sea gull eggs any more. So all these things are so important
36 to us, and I hope it's all worked out, because it's been on
37 the table ever since I can remember at the State Board level,
38 the State and the Federal level, and I just hope it all comes
39 to a head, and everything works out for our people in Glacier
40 Bay.

41

42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, I know that you being
43 the physical custodian for that area, that that question just
44 comes with the territory, and certainly we don't mean any
45 personal implications on those, but my second is very
46 prejudiced, so -- but thank you, we appreciate the updates.
47 Let Clarence take care of your heavy work. Dolly.

48

49 MS. GARZA: So you were talking about what's

50 going on with sea gull eggs, but I didn't hear the end of it?

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1 MR. CAPRA: There has been -- this is outside
2 Title VIII, so it doesn't really -- it doesn't go in the same
3 terms. It's new ground for both, for the Park Service and
4 Hoonah Indian Association. Probably the equivalent of a
5 report on c&t, an anthropological report is done, except for
6 proofreading, and should be with the Hoonah Indian
7 Association in a week or two for their proofreading and for
8 them to see it, which is -- I would say it's kind of the
9 equivalent of a c&t designation. It may -- you know, it will
10 go to the Hoonah Indian Association to see whether they agree
11 with the things that the Park Service found, and that would
12 be the first step in a finding of allowing some kind of egg
13 gathering activity in the Bay.

14
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

16
17 MS. GARZA: Could I ask Mary for her response
18 on that? It seemed like when we were in Haines, we were
19 talking about an up-coming meeting, but then I never heard
20 anything else.

21
22 MS. RUDOLPH: Well, it -- the thing that I've
23 found that's been really hard, is to really get the tribe
24 moving in one -- everybody paddling at the same time. It's
25 been an on-going thing where the opportunity comes and we
26 always seem to kind of miss the boat, and -- so it's -- we've
27 been arguing on the sea gull eggs, and like when Harold
28 talked, and talked about the meeting they had on the
29 Migratory Bird Treaty and now the tribes that weren't
30 involved, and that kind of really bothers me, because we in
31 the villages are having a hard time without funds, and aren't
32 able to attend a lot of these things that are applying to us,
33 and a lot of times like I just spoke a while ago on not
34 getting information to us as tribal members, have been
35 getting more stagnated where you -- when you find out about
36 it, it's usually a little too late, and you can't make a
37 response, so I've been trying to get that information like
38 now just listening to Dan, I didn't know they were going to
39 have a meeting in a week or so, and it's trying to get the
40 information out of HIA office to the tribal members, that's
41 really slowing us down, and the ones that are involved and
42 trying to get the things that are needed right now, like
43 being involved with this, it kind of brings it home. I had
44 really thought this time I wasn't going to come to this
45 meeting, because it's been a rough year for me, but it -- I'm
46 glad I came, because I'm able to get again the feeling of
47 what I actually came in here for. And being involved with
48 this, the sea gull eggs, to actually know that we are the
49 only ones that are taking out of there, and like last time I

50 mentioned my mother got -- one person had got in there and

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1 got maybe six sea gull eggs, and what he did was give one to
2 each of the elders. And my mom took care of her sea gull egg
3 for a few days before she finally cooked it. It meant that
4 much to her. So it's really, really heartbreaking to watch
5 what we grew up on, for us to be fighting for it, and one of
6 the things they asked us when Park Service came to talk to
7 us, they wanted us to identify maybe as a -- maybe for our
8 sacred parties, or -- but they wanted to know what we did
9 with it, and we did same thing you do with your chicken eggs,
10 we cook them and we eat them. So, you know, how do you try
11 to put it into a sacred belief, when it's part of your diet.
12 So this is what I find very frustrating as we go through the
13 process here.

14
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Which came first, the sea
16 gull or the egg? Anybody else? Thank you, Jim.

17
18 MR. SUMMERS: Mr. Chairman, Council members,
19 my name is Clarence Summers with the National Park Service.
20 I'll try to make it short. I promised yesterday some
21 background on the migratory bird hunting issue in Wrangell-
22 St. Elias that John mentioned. And John Mayo mentioned
23 several items affecting Wrangell-St. Elias. I won't try to
24 revisit that, but the first item that I'm passing around is
25 an attempt to capture the current prohibition on hunting in
26 the park, that's Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, with
27 regard to waterfowl. Keep in mind the national preserves are
28 open to waterfowl hunting, so the issue is the park.

29
30 The other item that I'd like to cover is John Vale,
31 his current appointment with Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence
32 Resource Commission, he serves as the chair, and he's been in
33 that position for several terms. The terms are three-year
34 terms, and that's soon to expire. And the Southeast Regional
35 Council appoints John to that position, so I will work with
36 Dave and Fred and Fish and Wildlife Service and Staff, and
37 the community of Yakutat to help identify candidates for that
38 position.

39
40 One of the requirements, by the way, is that the
41 person serving on the Wrangell-St. Elias Commission be on a
42 regional council, the appropriate one for this area is
43 Southeast, or a local advisory committee, and in addition be
44 a qualified subsistence user of Wrangell-St. Elias National
45 Park, so that means a resident of Yakutat or a permit holder.
46 The Park Service issues permits for subsistence in -- at
47 Wrangell-St. Elias, so -- but I'll work with Staff to
48 identify candidates by your next meeting.

49

CHAIRMAN THOMAS: How old is that particular

00243

1 forum?

2

3 MR. SUMMERS: Let's see. It's -- the
4 authority for the Commission comes from Section 808 of
5 ANILCA, so it's -- ANILCA is the legislation, the law that
6 created the Commission. I believe you're 805, so 808, if
7 you've got your ANILCA in your workbook, you can review that,
8 and you'll see where the commissions were established to
9 develop hunting plan recommendations. I believe at a
10 meeting, I believe it was in Ketchikan, we had the hunting
11 plan draft, and it's now out, and -- but that's the primary
12 purpose for the Commission, to develop hunting program
13 recommendations on seasons, bag limits, cabins, subsistence
14 use in the park. And I think the Commission first met at
15 Wrangells, don't quote me on this, but I believe it was 1983,
16 and there are nine members, three appointed by the Governor,
17 three appointed by the Secretary of Interior, and three
18 appointed by Regional Councils. Now, Wrangell-St. Elias is
19 13 million acres, it's a large area. A portion of it's in
20 Southeast, so the Southeast Regional Council appoints one of
21 three, South Central appoints one member, and Eastern
22 Interior Regional Council appoints a member.

23

24 Any other questions. Boy, I hope -- yeah, I just
25 want to say that I hope John returns, because rumor has it
26 he's stepping down from the seat possibly that he holds with
27 the Council. He could continue to serve, since he's on the
28 local advisory committee in Yakutat, on our Commission, so I
29 just hope he takes serious consideration. Thank you. Any
30 other questions.

31

32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

33

34 MR. VALE: Bill.

35

36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: John.

37

38 MR. VALE: Yeah, I am willing to continue
39 serving on the Subsistence Resource Commission for the Park,
40 but I'm not going to be there forever, and I'd -- that's why
41 I request and ask that the position be advertised, just so
42 that we can inform people about the process of the
43 appointment, and in the coming years, I hope to cultivate
44 further interest in Yakutat, but -- so I'm -- I will stay
45 with that, and perhaps the appointment can be made at the
46 next fall meeting.

47

48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Other agencies and
49 groups?

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1 MS. GARZA: I've got a question.

2
3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly's got a question.

4
5 MS. GARZA: Yeah, and I'm not sure which of
6 the two Park people it should be addressed to, but I'm not
7 sure I got a clear report on the issue that came up I think
8 last week with the fishing boats in Glacier Bay. It seemed
9 like from the news that it was a very adversarial position
10 where fishermen were led to believe one thing, but they were
11 treated much differently by the people who boarded their
12 boats, and it seemed quite confrontational, which is not what
13 I had thought it would be from information that I had heard I
14 think in previous meetings, and so I'm kind of curious what
15 happened?

16
17 MR. CAPRA: Jim Capra, from Glacier Bay.
18 From personal experience, this year I wasn't there, but
19 usually I am one of the rangers doing the boardings during
20 the tanner crab season. And we do a license check, and we
21 check whatever gear is on deck, and not every skipper is
22 happy with being boarded. Well, usually the skippers aren't
23 thrilled with being happy but we -- thrilled with being
24 boarded, but we have to do license checks. If they don't get
25 checked by use, they got checked by the State Troopers on the
26 Enforcer. This year, in October, the Act that Senator
27 Stevens helped push through, or the -- made it -- put the
28 rule on the books that since October it's been illegal to
29 have motorized vessels in wilderness water. So in the case
30 of seven of the I believe 19 boats that were boarded, they
31 were fishing and operating in wilderness waters, and they
32 were asked to move. The -- they were told they would not get
33 a citation. They were asked to move voluntarily. All seven
34 skippers did decide to move their gear and their boats. The
35 Park Service did not feel with all the confusion going on,
36 that even though the law has been on the books since October,
37 with all the hoopla surrounding the fishing issue, it was not
38 -- would not be fair to cite people for that, and they were
39 asked to move voluntarily.

40
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: How long has wilderness
42 waters been defined?

43
44 MR. CAPRA: Wilderness waters have been
45 defined -- were you.....

46
47 MR. SUMMERS: I want to say in the early 80s.
48 I worked -- Clarence Summers, National Park Service. I
49 worked in 1988 on a planning team for the wilderness

50 implementation. We had public meetings in Southeast, and

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1 it's a mandate in the early 80s, and I know that at.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: And.....

4

5 MR. SUMMERS:that time wilderness
6 waters were identified in Glacier Bay.

7

8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is all of Glacier Bay
9 wilderness waters?

10

11 MR. SUMMERS: No. There are certain areas --
12 let's see, from memory, the Beardsleys -- is it Hugh Miller?
13 Adams Inlet, but there -- it's not the entire Bay, and as I
14 understand it, the outer coast, there are no wilderness
15 waters.....

16

17 MR. CAPRA: Yeah.

18

19 MR. SUMMERS:on the outer coast, but if
20 the Coun -- for the Council's benefit, I'll obtain a copy of
21 the wilderness EIS, the finals, with the record of decision
22 and maps showing wilderness waters and -- for the record, and
23 that way you'll have an accurate document that will explain
24 the policy in the Park and will identify areas that are
25 designated as wilderness with, you know, documentation, so
26 that's something that I could provide.....

27

28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Dolly.

29

30 MR. SUMMERS:to Staff.

31

32 MS. GARZA: I guess the part that I don't
33 understand is that from -- and maybe just the radio's getting
34 wrong, but from the radio information, it seemed like last
35 fall there was information that said that, you know, there
36 was negotiations going on, and the fishermen would have the
37 right to use the Park, but there would be no grandfathering,
38 and so -- and then the whole issue of, well, it's voluntary,
39 and then you have fishermen going in there using the Park and
40 being asked by people that have bullet-proof vests on and
41 guns to voluntarily leave, and that doesn't hit me as
42 voluntary at all. And so maybe my problem is I'm hearing
43 things wrong from the radio, but I'd like to get things
44 straight in my mind, so that as people ask me questions, I
45 could say, this is what's going on, and this is how they're
46 attempting to resolve the issue, because what I'm not hearing
47 on the radio is what the resolution is.

48

49 MR. CAPRA: A real quick, since October that

50 Act closed wild -- it closed wilderness waters in October,

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1 and what it did basically was end the public comment, which
2 has I know left a bad taste on all sides of the issues. But
3 it settled it, saying that four fisheries will continue in
4 the bay: salmon trolling, halibut, tanner crab, and I --
5 maybe not dungeness, or some dungeness. I'd have to go back
6 and see. Four fisheries will continue in some degree. It
7 will be the fishermen who have been there historically. The
8 part yet to be decided is how do you figure out who's
9 historically used the Bay, and whether it's a lifetime or
10 whether it's five years, 15 years. When will it be phased
11 out? It is -- they will be phased out. That was decided
12 basically in a lawsuit, that was -- where the Alaska
13 Wilderness Alliance sued the Park.

14
15 MS. GARZA: So then the intent is that these
16 four fisheries will be allowed, and that there will be a
17 phase out, then why were any boats boarded at all? I guess
18 that's what I'm missing.

19
20 MR. CAPRA: We've always boarded boats. As
21 we do law enforcement in the Bay, we board -- we check
22 licenses for sport fishing and commercial fishing. The folks
23 who are boarding the boats are just in their normal uniform
24 that they're required to wear.

25
26 MS. GARZA: Okay. So then still if they're
27 being boarded just because you would normally board them,
28 then why are they being asked to voluntarily leave if it's
29 voluntary? I mean, that's sort of.....

30
31 MR. CAPRA: They were left to -- well, since
32 October it has been -- the wilderness waters have been closed
33 to motorized vessels. The fishermen this year were told that
34 because of the confusion, it was voluntary that they leave.
35 They could continue to fish. All o them did decide to leave.
36 You know, it -- I have heard how it sounds on the radio, but
37 it's -- all of the skippers that I've -- I've been there for
38 three years and boarded the same boats year after year. I
39 don't know if all the same boats were there.

40
41 MS. GARZA: So there's two things going on.
42 There's the Glacier Park thing that says, okay, we're going
43 to allow you guys to fish until you die basically, but
44 there's a separate Act that's saying, well, the loophole is,
45 is you've got to paddle in here?

46
47 MR. CAPRA: No. No, the -- there -- the
48 lawsuit was -- the Alaska Wilderness Alliance lawsuit was on
49 two prongs basically. One that motorized boats are not

50 allowed in wilderness waters, and the Park for years had been

00247

1 allowing motorized -- commercial fishermen in there, even
2 though nobody else was allowed in with motors. And the
3 Wilderness Alliance won the lawsuit, so motorized boats
4 regardless of their activity are prohibited.

5
6 The other part was that commercial fishing has been
7 on the books as illegal in Glacier Bay National Park for
8 quite a while. It's -- at least two different times in the
9 past -- the last before the most recent one was 1991. It's
10 -- there have been laws put on the books that make it illegal
11 to fish in Glacier Bay, but a method for enacting that fairly
12 was -- had never gone through. Hopefully we're in the
13 process of that. It is not a management option to allow
14 fishing to continue. It's -- Congress has made it a law that
15 fishing is not legal in Glacier Bay.

16
17 MS. GARZA: Okay. So I'm still confused. I
18 mean, we have I don't know how many tour ships and they're
19 all motorized toodling into that Bay. And then secondly, if
20 it's illegal to fish, then how come we were hearing from the
21 Alaska Delegation that there would be this phase out for
22 commercial fishermen? Is that something that is like going
23 to happen, or what am I missing?

24
25 MR. CAPRA: There is going to be a phase out.
26 What's not decided now is how that phase out will occur. You
27 know, that's just not decided now.

28
29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Do you have the history
30 behind all this? Why the phase out? What's the problem?
31 There's got to be a problem, we want to see what you're
32 trying to resolve. There's got to be a plan. Is that
33 available?

34
35 MR. CAPRA: Yes. The proposed rule for the
36 phase out of commercial fishing has the background and the
37 legislative and just the history of what's happened before.

38
39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: And where do we find that?

40
41 MR. CAPRA: I can make sure you get a copy.
42 I would be -- I'm sure Mary has seen it. It got pretty wide
43 distribution in Southeast.

44
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. The reason, we're
46 going through a lot of time here.....

47
48 MR. CAPRA: Uh-hum.

49

CHAIRMAN THOMAS:unnecessarily, and

00248

1 we're going to wind up running for the airplane before we
2 finish our agenda, so if this can be handled by
3 correspondence with printed materials to review, I would
4 encourage our people to do that.

5
6 MR. SUMMERS: Clarence Summers, National Park
7 Service. I can commit that we will provide you with
8 background on this issue. I'm surprised that you don't have
9 it, and I can deliver it to you. I can provide background on
10 the wilderness EIS, the proposed rule. There's a vessel
11 management plan document that is a recent document that
12 addresses vessel use in the Bay, and I can make it available
13 to you.

14
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, the reason I
16 suggested what I did is that we -- there's an obvious sense
17 of inequity here. And at the rate the dialogue is going now,
18 we can do this for the rest of the summer and still be
19 confused. And so that's why I'm trying -- if we had the
20 time, I would do that, but we don't have the time to do that.

21
22 We're having two proposals -- let me tell you
23 something. We're having two proposals, committing two days
24 for those proposals, what are we going to do with three
25 proposals, you know? So from now on, no more than two
26 proposals for our meetings.

27
28 Mary.

29
30 MS. RUDOLPH: I was on the task force that
31 was meeting on this issue in Juneau, and one of the last
32 things we were doing when meeting with Molly Ross and them,
33 was putting a packet together and all the way to the very
34 last meeting, there was a lot of controversy from Gustavus
35 and different areas. I couldn't see anything that was
36 resolved, so I'm anxious to get the same papers, too, because
37 we were still going to come forward, the State was getting
38 ahold of us, we were going to have a meeting, just at the
39 time they called -- they called up and said Washington had
40 already passed this, so I would like to see the same
41 documents.

42
43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Okay. Well, we'll
44 do that. That horse is almost buried.

45
46 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It is buried.

47
48 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No, it's still beating.

49

CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, guys. Other

00249

1 agencies or groups? I tried to claim Myrna. Dolly.

2

3 MS. GARZA: Myrna's daughter.

4

5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Myrna's daughter. Myrna's
6 auntie.

7

8 MS. GARZA: Myrna's auntie, too, yeah. I was
9 just talking to Mr. Lawson, and he's on a committee that
10 addressing how enforcement deals with rural and native
11 people, and I would like to ask him to give us a few minutes
12 of his time as to what they're doing with that, if that's
13 okay, Mr. Chair?

14

15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sure. You guys might have
16 to cancel your check-outs.

17

18 MR. LAWSON: Thank you, Dolly. Thank you,
19 Chairman. Thank you, Council. My name is Nels Lawson. I'm
20 a Forest Service employee. I'm the tribal government
21 specialist.

22

23 But one of the other things I do within the Forest
24 Service, I serve on the National American Indian Council, and
25 we address issues that are relevant or important across the
26 Nation with respect to native American employees.

27

28 Several years ago it came to our attention that when
29 there's an interface between law enforcement and native
30 American peoples, that it becomes very contentious, and it
31 becomes contentious because of the cultural
32 misunderstandings. So our group has recommended, and we have
33 support from within our agency, to influence the Glenco
34 Training Academy through -- and the Glenco Training Academy
35 is the school that most federal law enforcement people go
36 through. What we have proposed, and we should have that
37 finished this year is a cultural element that all federal
38 officers that attend Glenco Training Academy will have in
39 their training packet. Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly, you had.....

42

43 MS. GARZA: Thank you, Nels. Are there any
44 questions of Nels? Okay. Before Fred, I'm not sure how many
45 people are intending to make that 6:00 o'clock flight, but I
46 do want to remind you that the Alaska Native Brotherhood is
47 hosting a reception in your honor tonight, and that's why we
48 have not seen Jerry Hope or Ralph this afternoon, is because
49 they are -- like good men, they are off cooking for us. So I

50 do hope that if you're waffling between tonight's flight or

00250

1 tomorrow morning's flight, there is a 6:00 a.m. flight out of
2 here, that you would come to the reception tonight. Fred.

3

4 MR. CLARK: Madam Chairman, Council, Bill got
5 through the Forest Service section so fast I guess that means
6 I'll have to be an agency in my own mind. I just wanted to
7 make sure that the Council that in specific in the fall, in
8 November, the week of the 15th, probably the 16th and 17th in
9 Ketchikan, there will be a conference dealing with bridging,
10 if you want to call it, traditional knowledge or native
11 science, or indigenous knowledge, and Western ecological
12 science, ecosystem science. So put it on your calendar, plan
13 to attend. Several people in this room are on the planning
14 committee for that conference. Dolly's on the committee,
15 Howard is on the committee. And more folks. And more folks
16 will be involved very soon, because we just got to the point
17 now where we've identified a place and a time. Now we'll
18 start working on agenda and try and get more people
19 interested, and figure out how to make it a very good
20 happening.

21

22 MS. GARZA: What were the dates again?

23

24 MR. CLARK: November. The week of November
25 15th.

26

27 MS. GARZA: Okay.

28

29 MR. CLARK: It's probably the 16th and 17th.

30

31 MS. GARZA: So that's after the Regional
32 Council window?

33

34 MR. CLARK: Yes, that's after the Regional
35 Council window. It's two weeks past grand camp.

36

37 MS. WILSON: What did you call that again?

38

39 MR. CLARK: We're calling it a traditional
40 knowledge conference.

41

42 MS. WILSON: Okay. It's hosted by the Forest
43 Service along with a number of different native
44 organizations. Ketchikan Indian Corporation has agreed to
45 help host it. Saxman is interested.

46

47 MS. GARZA: I really lobbied for Sitka, but I
48 lost. Thanks, Fred. I guess I would like to ask you and/or
49 Dave, if it were the interest of the Southeast Council to

50 combine our winter meeting with this, to either precede it or

00251

1 follow it, would that be possible? Because I'm not sure
2 which of these council members would be attending on their
3 own, but we might all be interested in finding our own money
4 to stay a few days if we were already there, and if we were
5 invited to Ketchikan.

6
7 MR. CLARK: I guess that means we're not
8 going to be invited to Angoon.

9
10 MR. GEORGE: He's not here any more.

11
12
13 MR. CLARK: A brief answer would be that if
14 the Council was invited to Ketchikan, it's not too late to
15 change the date, because it's not set in stone. There isn't
16 any public notice or anything of that sort.

17
18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: To what?

19
20 MR. CLARK: The Traditional Knowledge
21 Conference in Ketchikan in November, it's set up right now
22 for November 16th, 17th. But those dates are flexible still.
23 Dolly just asked if we might be able to somehow coordinate
24 the Regional Advisory Council meeting with the -- with this
25 conference, so all the Council members could attend. And
26 briefly my briefly my answer was that if we wanted to change
27 the date of the conference, it's not too late to do so.

28
29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I can support that, but we
30 were requested two years in advance to meet in Angoon. They
31 asked, you know, two years in advance. What's this for?
32 Yeah, they've been making preparations ever since our
33 acceptance, and so if we're going to be talking tradition, we
34 don't want to start out by breaking one. So I would
35 discourage that.

36
37 MR. CLARK: What do you say, Gabe?

38
39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Don't say nothing, Gabe.

40
41 MS. McCONNELL: Gabe, you better say
42 something.

43
44 MR. GEORGE: In about an hour my term is over
45 with, so I have nothing to say. Or how long?

46
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, you're chairman until
48 the commencement of the next meeting. So you could still be
49 AWOL.

00252

1 Next? I hate to break your bubble. Conflicts are
2 hard to avoid, but we did get a request from -- a written
3 request from the ANB and ANS camp in Angoon while we were
4 meeting in Saxman. Or was it Saxman? Yeah. And so we let
5 them know right away that we in fact would be meeting there
6 the fall of '99. And the one thing I don't want this Council
7 to do is take on the appearance of other entities by not
8 being able to keep our word. Okay. Any further comments and
9 objection? Thank you. Mim.

10
11 MS. McCONNELL: Do you want a report on the
12 lunch meeting?

13
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yes.

15
16 MS. McCONNELL: I was afraid you'd say that.

17
18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I had a Mexican lunch.

19
20 MS. McCONNELL: We ate lunch at the airport,
21 and it was a very good lunch, and that's it. No. I just --
22 let's see. We came up with two letters and two proposals
23 that need to be written. And one letter would go to the
24 Federal Subsistence Board urging them to work together with
25 ADF&G, especially during such time as when they're working on
26 fishery regulations. It sounds like June 1st is when that's
27 probably going to happen. This is more of that sort of fuzzy
28 information that I'm not really sure -- Dave's got his hand
29 up.

30
31 MR. JOHNSON: Clarification, Mim. The
32 process with the Federal Subsistence Board, and the
33 fisheries, and the State is on-going currently.

34
35 MS. McCONNELL: Okay.

36
37 MR. JOHNSON: I mean, come June 1, that's the
38 formal date, but I'm sure as Greg and others in the staff
39 alluded to the other day, there's on-going discussions on a
40 variety of issues.....

41
42 MS. McCONNELL: Okay.

43
44 MR. JOHNSON:associated with that.

45
46 MS. McCONNELL: Okay. So the information
47 could be used now. I'm not really sure what.....

48
49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Jack.

00253

1 MS. McCONNELL: Pardon?

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I need to see Jack before
4 he leaves. Turn my mike up so Jack can hear me.

5

6 MS. McCONNELL: He needs to see you.

7

8 It has to do with implementing fisheries regulations
9 is what this letter would be about, and I'm not -- we didn't
10 actually do any working for this letter, what exactly it
11 would say. One of the issues that we brought up was that
12 we'd like to see the issue of rod and reel, using rod and
13 reel for subsistence be dealt with. It's -- you could use it
14 -- you cannot use it under state regulations right now, and
15 if we adopt those regulations, then there would be a problem.
16 So.....

17

18 MS. PHILLIPS: I thought that was okay under
19 federal, this -- the reel.

20

21 MS. McCONNELL: But it's not under State.

22

23 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

24

25 MS. McCONNELL: So I don't.....

26

27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Greg.

28

29 MR. BOS: Yeah, Mr. Chair, the final rule
30 does allow rod and reel under federal regulations. That is
31 scheduled to be implemented.....

32

33 MS. McCONNELL: Okay.

34

35 MR. BOS:on October 1, even though the
36 State does not recognize that as a subsistence methods, we
37 do.

38

39 MS. McCONNELL: Okay. Okay. So I guess then
40 the letter would be encouraging continual -- continuing
41 working together. I don't know. John, maybe you can add to
42 this? I'm stumbling over this one.

43

44 MR. VALE: Yeah, I think to be a little more
45 clear, what we were hoping to be accomplished here with that,
46 as the consultations go on between the Subsistence Board
47 Staff and ADF&G in the coming year, that you would work to
48 see the issues that were raised on commercial exploitation of
49 subsistence foods, namely the seaweeds that we addressed

50 earlier, and other subsistence resources, that as -- we ask

00254

1 that those -- in those consultations that a process be
2 established with the Department of Fish and Game to assure
3 that those resources are protected, adequately protected in
4 the form of, you know, documenting the abundance, and
5 consultation with local communities and just a process be
6 established. We know you're going to be discussing with the
7 Department, a process be established to address these issues
8 that we're concerned about the potential commercial
9 development of new fisheries we'll call it or new -- I don't
10 know if you want to call seaweed a fishery, but that's the
11 we're particularly concerned about, there are likely other
12 subsistence resources out there that new fisheries could be
13 developed on, and we'd just like to make sure that you're
14 working with the Department and as much as possible to bring
15 about those protections so that they're not over-exploited.
16 And that's the goal of the letter. And I don't now how --
17 what -- how the wording goes.

18
19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is it already.....

20
21 MR. VALE: Got that, Dave?

22
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is it already written?

24
25 MR. JOHNSON: She has it, and I'll be
26 reading.

27
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Did you guys take notes at
29 your meeting?

30
31 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah, I've got notes, and
32 Dave does, too, I think.

33
34 The other letter would be stating the Council's
35 concern about the recent application for the permit to
36 harvest 15,000 pounds of black seaweed, and stating that they
37 need local input from communities that use the area before
38 they issue such a permit. Does that sound like what we
39 talked about at lunch? Okay.

40
41 Okay. And then we came up with two proposals that
42 would be submitted for this coming Southeast Board of Fish
43 meeting, it will be in the fall, and it would need to be
44 submitted by the middle of April. And they're basically --
45 say the same thing, but addressing two different -- we tried
46 -- we split it up so that they've got two different
47 proposals, so if one goes down, maybe the other one won't.
48 And this is just some -- I just kind of roughly wrote out
49 what it would say. It's probably not very good, but.....

00255

1 It says, what is the problem you would like the Board
2 to address, and I wrote conservation of seaweeds and
3 dependent species. Currently experimental and/or new
4 commercial fisheries for seaweed harvest are issued without
5 local and regional review. What will happen if this problem
6 is not solved? Targeted and/or non-targeted species may be
7 adversely affected. What solution do you prefer? In other
8 words, if the Board adopted your solution, what would the new
9 regulations say? And this I really had a hard time writing,
10 but basically it would say before experimental and/or new
11 commercial fisheries permits for seaweed harvest are issued
12 by the Department, they shall incorporate local and regional
13 residents in conducting their review. And I wrote a note in
14 there of what John said about documenting abundance. I don't
15 know where that would fit in there. And then who's likely to
16 benefit? Local subsistence harvesters and the seaweed
17 ecosystems. Who is likely to suffer? Possibly no one, but
18 maybe commercial harvesters of significant amounts of
19 seaweed.

20
21 And then the other one says the same thing, but it's
22 dealing with -- let's see, past and current use and life
23 cycle studies, especially those which use a total ecosystem
24 approach.

25
26 So one is dealing with local and regional review, and
27 the other one is dealing with studies and using either old
28 studies or new ones, and so that's basically what the two
29 proposals are, and they really need some work, but.....

30
31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is this going to be a
32 letter to the State?

33
34 MS. McCONNELL: No, we've got two letters and
35 two proposals, and they're all separate. These two proposals
36 are just that. They're just proposals, there's no letter.
37 It would just -- they would be submitted to the board of fish
38 and would go out in the packets. The Board book that goes
39 out to everybody that comments on what new regulations there
40 should be. It would come up at the Board of Fish meeting
41 next fall, and the Board of Fish would look at these and
42 decide whether or not they should adopt them as regulation.

43
44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I think that will replace a
45 three-foot door with a five-foot door, but I'm game. I think
46 it's going to have negative effects that you can't even
47 measure. John.

48
49 MR. VALE: On the second proposal there, I

50 hope I can add some further clarification on there. I think

00256

1 it was our intent from the folks who participated in that
2 discussion that that proposal would have the effect of
3 requesting that no new fisheries be permitted until adequate
4 studies are conducted that would determine the abundance,
5 life history, subsistence uses and consultation or -- I'm not
6 sure if consultation is part of that one or the first one,
7 but the guts of the proposal were that we're requesting that
8 they set up a policy, the Board create a policy of not
9 authorizing any new fisheries without adequate studies on
10 those species. So that was the guts of it I believe.

11
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mim.

13
14 MS. McCONNELL: It was just suggested that to
15 add a phrase there, that until a management plan is adopted.
16 So they would have to do these studies and things until a
17 plan is adopted, so -- which would help form -- help them
18 actually do that, which would be good.

19
20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah.

21
22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Giving the fox the key to
23 the hen house.

24
25 MS. McCONNELL: Dolly's got something here.

26
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

28
29 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, perhaps we could go
30 through these one by one so that we can take action, because
31 it's kind of hard to think of all of them. The immediate
32 concern is, for me, the issue of a permit for 15,000 pounds
33 of black seaweed. Mr. Chairman, I would move that we send a
34 letter to ADF&G Comm Fish Sitka, which I understand is the
35 office reviewing this proposal, and ask them to withhold
36 issuing this experimental permit until they have met with the
37 communities of Kake and P.A. and other communities that may
38 be using this black seaweed resource in the Red Bluff to P.A.
39 area.

40
41 MR. VALE: Second.

42
43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You heard the motion. A
44 second. Discussion.

45
46 MS. RUDOLPH: Question.

47
48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The question's been called.
49 All those in favor, say aye.

00257

1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2
3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Opposed.

4
5 (No opposing responses)

6
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Motion carries. Dolly.

8
9 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I would move that
10 we support in concept a proposal to the Board of Fish that
11 establishes a policy to send proposals for experimental
12 permits to develop commercial fisheries, that those proposals
13 be sent and reviewed by local fish and game advisory
14 councils, as well as the affected regional subsistence
15 advisory council before such permits are issued.

16
17 MS. McCONNELL: Is that council or committee?
18 Or both?

19
20 MS. GARZA: No, we're a council.

21
22 MS. McCONNELL: So what about the local
23 advisory committees?

24
25 MS. GARZA: I said both, yeah.

26
27 MS. McCONNELL: Okay. You said the local
28 fish and game advisory committees.

29
30 MS. GARZA: Committee. Okay.

31
32 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah.

33
34 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, I second that.

35
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It's been moved and
37 seconded. Discussion.

38
39 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, it's the intent
40 that that language would be worked on and sent around and
41 then sent in to meet that I think April 15th deadline.

42
43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Further discussion.

44
45 MR. VALE: Question.

46
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The question's been called.
48 All those in favor say aye.

49

IN UNISON: Aye.

00258

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Opposed same sign.

2
3 (No opposing responses)

4
5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Motion carries.

6
7 MS. McCONNELL: So was that.....

8
9 MS. GARZA: That's one.

10
11 MS. McCONNELL: That was one. The other one
12 would be for using studies and things. You're on a roll,
13 Dolly, go for it.

14
15 MS. GARZA: Okay. Mr. Chairman.

16
17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

18
19 MS. GARZA: I would move that we support in
20 concept a proposal to the Board of Fish outlining a review
21 process for establishing new commercial fisheries that
22 outline the research and abundance needs and -- well,
23 research needs and abundances and uses of that resource.

24
25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Say it again.

26
27 MS. GARZA: That we support in concept a
28 proposal to the Board of Fish that outlines a process for
29 developing new commercial fisheries which include a review of
30 the research needs, the abundances of the resource, and
31 current and potential conflicts with other users.

32
33 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You heard the motion.

34
35 MR. VALE: Second.

36
37 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Moved and second.
38 Discussion.

39
40 MS. McCONNELL: Do we want to add in there
41 now something about until a management plan is adopted or
42 just assume that that's going -- we'll put that in there.

43
44 MS. GARZA: Develop a.....

45
46 MS. McCONNELL: You've already got the
47 concept. You stated it as a concept.

48
49 MS. GARZA: I don't know.

00259

1 MR. VALE: It's a concept.

2
3 MS. McCONNELL: All right.

4
5 MR. GARZA: Okay.

6
7 MS. McCONNELL: Let's just leave it.....

8
9 MS. GARZA: Yeah.

10
11 MS. McCONNELL: So we can edit, and that's
12 here. Question.

13
14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Would we include
15 ecosystem?

16
17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The question's been
18 called.....

19
20 MS. McCONNELL: That we'll -- I've got that
21 in the notes here, too.

22
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The question's been called.
24 All in favor say aye.

25
26 IN UNISON: Aye.

27
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Opposed same sign.

29
30 (No opposing responses)

31
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Motion carries.

33
34 MS. GARZA: And I have no idea what the other
35 letter was.

36
37 MR. VALE: That's to the Federal Subsistence
38 Board.

39
40 MS. McCONNELL: That was the one that John
41 did. He can do the motion.

42
43 MR. VALE: I would offer a motion that we
44 draft a letter to the Federal Board urging cooperation or
45 discussions between the ADF&G and the Board Staff with the
46 issues of developing new fisheries on subsistence resources,
47 particularly seaweed.

48
49 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: All of the species.

00260

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Did you hear his motion?

2
3 MS. GARZA: Second.

4
5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You didn't answer my
6 question. Did you hear the motion? It's been moved and
7 seconded. Discussion.

8
9 MR. VALE: Question.

10
11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The question's been called.
12 All those in favor say aye.

13
14 IN UNISON: Aye.

15
16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Opposed same sign.

17
18 (No opposing responses)

19
20 MS. GARZA: Actually I didn't hear his
21 motion. I was just on power.....

22
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I knew you didn't.

24
25 MS. GARZA: Yeah.

26
27 MR. VALE: Would you like me to repeat it?

28
29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I saw that deceiving
30 expression on your face there.

31
32 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, it's reassuring
33 to see the clarification much clearer coming from this
34 direction than from the federal side.

35
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. How far did you guys
37 get while I was checking my fax machine?

38
39 MS. GARZA: We're on adjournment I believe.

40
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Did you have public
42 comment, agency, staff, council members already? Dolly.

43
44 MS. GARZA: No, we didn't, and I think under
45 other agencies and groups, there were two presentations
46 yesterday by the public, and I don't think we took action.
47 One was by Juneau requesting our support of their endeavors
48 to secure protection for subsistence uses in that area. I'm
49 not sure if they have that letter here, but I think it is

50 something that we should action on. The other issue that was

00261

1 brought up, and that we said we would talk about later was
2 the bear issue in Petersburg. And I'm not sure what we can
3 do besides send over ammo there, but perhaps we should take
4 action there.

5
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Got a lot of action
7 already. What's the wish of the Council? Dolly.

8
9 MS. GARZA: So, Mr. Chairman, I guess I would
10 like to ask Mr. Willard if that letter that you've written,
11 I'm not sure who it was written to, but do you have a copy
12 that we could look at it and support it or.....

13
14 MR. WILLARD: I could fax it in.

15
16 MS. GARZA: Okay. So perhaps what we should
17 do is just make a motion to support the efforts of
18 Juneau/Douglas/Auke Bay people to -- in their efforts to --
19 now I can't think any more -- to secure subsistence use
20 protections.

21
22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: In their efforts to amend
23 ANILCA?

24
25 MS. GARZA: Were you looking at amending?
26 Subsistence opportunities. Mr. Chairman, I would move that
27 we support the efforts of Juneau/Douglas/Auke Bay to secure
28 subsistence use opportunities for their area.

29
30 MS. WILSON: I'll second that motion, Mr.
31 Chairman.

32
33 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Moved and seconded.
34 Discussion.

35
36 MS. GARZA: Is that okay, Bob?

37
38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Does that include Tee
39 Harbor? John.

40
41 MR. VALE: I think I can get behind and
42 support an effort to recognize urban native people's
43 opportunities at subsistence. I agree wholeheartedly with
44 the things that Robert had to say yesterday. But I'm a
45 little bit in quandary on this in that looking at Title VIII,
46 it repeatedly refers to rural subsistence users or uses. And
47 I guess I don't know what it is we're doing. To me this --
48 the request from Juneau, and I support their efforts to get
49 subsistence, but working under Title VIII, I don't know how

50 we can do that under Title VIII.

00262

1 MS. GARZA: I think one -- I don't know,
2 while I'm sure you thought about it, because I know you think
3 a lot about this whole issue, but one thing I had thought
4 about last night was exactly what Saxman has done, so you
5 would have Auke Bay subsistence, and you would have Douglas
6 Island subsistence, and then by separating out that community
7 to its components, then Juneau in effect becomes a smaller
8 community and then would qualify for rural. I mean, that's a
9 strategy I would follow if I were in one of those
10 communities.

11
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, Saxman is a
13 municipality on its own.

14
15 MS. GARZA: What about Douglas?

16
17 MR. VALE: It's part of the Juneau Borough I
18 believe.

19
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's part of the Juneau
21 Borough.

22
23 MS. GARZA: But I guess my point is, I think
24 that there are some ways to try and work within the system
25 that's possible. I mean, we can always send Herman over
26 since he's the one who got subsistence for Sitka.

27
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, I wouldn't share
29 Herman if I was you. What John is saying is true. We have
30 to be careful on what we do here as a Council. We can't jump
31 up and down and say that it's not included in Title VIII and
32 we're not going to do something, and then do something else
33 that's not in Title VIII for a different reason. So we have
34 to be consistent, and sometimes there's consequences for
35 that. But we have to -- that's a bullet we're going to have
36 to bite.

37
38 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

39
40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

41
42 MS. WILSON: Are you saying that we probably
43 shouldn't support -- that we probably shouldn't support this
44 motion, because it's not in ANILCA to have subsistence
45 opportunity in the urban areas?

46
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It would violate 801 of
48 ANILCA, yes.

49

MR. VALE: Mr. Chairman.

00263

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: John.

2

3 MR. VALE: I would I guess make a motion that
4 we table this until we can have a proposal presented to us
5 that maybe can accomplish that goal that we can look at, and
6 maybe figure that that's something that we can handle or do
7 or support in some fashion. A specific proposal. So that
8 would be my motion that we table the.....

9

10 MR. KITKA: Second the motion.

11

12 MR. VALE:previous motion.

13

14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It's been moved and
15 seconded. Nondebatable. All those in favor say aye.

16

17 IN UNISON: Aye.

18

19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Those opposed.

20

21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Aye.

22

23 MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to have
24 a roll call vote on that.

25

26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Patty.

27

28 MR. ANDERSON: I only heard one or two ayes.

29

30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The ayes have it. Got to
31 have the same sign.

32

33 MS. PHILLIPS: Lonnie Anderson.

34

35 MR. ANDERSON: No.

36

37 MS. PHILLIPS: Marilyn Wilson.

38

39 MS. WILSON: Yes.

40

41 MS. PHILLIPS: Dolly Garza.

42

43 MS. GARZA: No.

44

45 MS. PHILLIPS: Mim McConnell.

46

47 MS. McCONNELL: Yes.

48

49 MS. PHILLIPS: Patricia Phillips, yes. Mary

00264

1 MS. RUDOLPH: Yes.

2

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Alan Sorum.

4

5 MR. SORUM: Yes.

6

7 MS. PHILLIPS: Herman Kitka.

8

9 MR. KITKA: Yes.

10

11 MS. PHILLIPS: John Vale.

12

13 MR. VALE: Yes.

14

15 MS. PHILLIPS: Gabriel George.

16

17 MR. GEORGE: Maybe. Yes.

18

19 MS. PHILLIPS: William Thomas.

20

21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No.

22

23 MS. PHILLIPS: Three nays, and.....

24

25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Motion failed.

26

27 MS. PHILLIPS:five, six, eight ayes.

28

29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. So we're back to the
30 first motion? There was how many nays?

31

32 MS. PHILLIPS: Three nays and eight ayes.

33

34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, I voted in reverse,
35 I'm sorry. But I'm glad it turned out that way. I made an
36 honest mistake for a change. Okay. Mim.

37

38 MS. McCONNELL: Can I bring up something new?

39

40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sure.

41

42 MS. McCONNELL: Okay. Well, actually it
43 isn't new. It's just that brown bear thing again for Unit 4,
44 Unit 4 brown bear management team. Apparently there is going
45 to be a meeting April 5th and 6th in Juneau, and ADF&G will
46 cover costs for hotel and travel for team members who need
47 it. So I just wanted to bring that up again. I think it
48 would be good if somebody from the Council went to it.

49

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Gold Medal time.

00265

1 MS. McCONNELL: If somebody is there for Gold
2 Medal, they can go to the meeting.

3
4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Is it on ABC Islands?

5
6 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah.

7
8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Pelican?

9
10 MS. McCONNELL: There's a lot of us on here
11 that -- I won't be here.

12
13 MS. GARZA: I have absolutely no interest.

14
15 MS. McCONNELL: You have no interest, Dolly.

16
17 MS. GARZA: No, that's a bad time.

18
19 MS. McCONNELL: It's not a very good time for
20 me either. How about you?

21
22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I'll be in Anchorage.

23
24 MS. McCONNELL: You'll be in Anchorage. What
25 about you, Patty?

26
27 MS. PHILLIPS: Too many other issues. I've
28 got to pick and choose.

29
30 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah, I hear you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is there any discussion --
33 we don't seem to be making any headway on this. Nobody's
34 biting.

35
36 MS. McCONNELL: I'd -- there would be some
37 major groans if I tried to go to that. We're supposed to be
38 out of here by about then. But I'll see.

39
40 MS. GARZA: How many days?

41
42 MS. McCONNELL: It's two days, April 5th and
43 6th.

44
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Any other agencies, groups?
46 Oh, Greg.

47
48 MR. BOS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I was present
49 at the Alaska Board of Game meeting in Ketchikan where the

50 decision was made to form this committee, and the intent by

00266

1 the Board of Game was to include a member of the Regional
2 Council as a member of that committee. I mean, there's an
3 open invitation to any member of the public to come to their
4 meetings, but as an active member of the committee, they felt
5 it would be important if someone from this Council could
6 represent the Council at -- on the team. I think if you're
7 unable to participate in that matter, that it might be
8 appropriate for Staff to help you draft a letter explaining
9 that you have an interest and they're in the progress of
10 their deliberations, but you for whatever reasons are unable
11 to participate as a member.

12
13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, I'd rather see a
14 letter of invitation, and then respond to that, rather than
15 send them a written response to a verbal request.

16
17 MR. BOS: Yes, I agree with you, and I think
18 we can communicate with the representative from the
19 Department who I think was.....

20
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sure. I think that would
22 -- I think that would be more effective. I think when
23 people have a chance to read something, and if they have any
24 questions, their questions can be more specific, and then the
25 resolve would occur a lot sooner.

26
27 MR. BOS: Apparently some effort was made by
28 Tom Paul to establish that invitation. I'm surprised that
29 they didn't do it in writing. They really should have done
30 that.

31
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I see a problem here.
33 Dolly.

34
35 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I'm trying to
36 figure out how I can get out of it. One option would be if
37 we support someone from Sitka Tribe Council. I know that
38 there are several bear hunters on or associated with Sitka
39 Tribe, and I'm thinking of Wade Martin or Marty Martin, who
40 has testified to us several times, and it's very interested
41 in bear, and he has been a brown bear hunter in the past, and
42 so that's one -- you know, one name that comes to mind, and
43 although he's not on the Council, I think that he certainly
44 would represent subsistence interest well. And perhaps we
45 should consider that, since we have no volunteers in this
46 room.

47
48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Gabe.
49

MR. GEORGE: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

00267

1 Yeah, I got a call from Tom Paul, you know, about it, and I
2 said I'd think about it, and then he added on that they
3 wanted somebody from the Regional Council, and I assumed that
4 the Regional Council makes up their mind as to who they're
5 going to, you know, vote on representing the Council, so I
6 said call you. I declined to respond. I got the reading
7 material, and it's really, you know, fairly interesting, you
8 know, what they've sent out and all, but they've been working
9 at it for a while, and I think it's something that if John
10 stays on, he'd be good at.

11

12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I'm hoping the Council
13 would make a decision, because so far this whole session,
14 Dolly's made all our decisions for us, so I've got to leave
15 it at my -- I want to leave it with my ego intact.

16

17 MR. GEORGE: But as far as, you know, -- you
18 know, I agree, you know, that a written letter would have
19 been good, but on the other hand, I don't see anything wrong
20 with someone calling up the Chairman or some representative
21 and -- or, you know, in this case, you know, road kill or
22 something, and he transfer the invitation on.....

23

24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, you have.....

25

26 MR. GEORGE:and I assume my word is all
27 right. You know, I called.

28

29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You ask anybody that
30 corresponds with me, and they'll tell you whenever I have a
31 copy, you'll probably get me agreeing with, because I respond
32 to hard copies, and I use hard copies to correspond. Greg.

33

34 MR. BOS: One other comment. I think the
35 Board recognized the need to have subsistence interests
36 represented, and the -- it's my recollection that they wanted
37 to have a representative, a local subsistence user, say also
38 a representative from the Tlingit-Haida Central Council, and
39 then for the Federal Subsistence Program, a member of this
40 Council to be a member of that committee. And as I look
41 through this list of those committee members, and I'm not
42 sure that they have a representative there from Tlingit-Haida
43 Council. Whether that invitation was extended to them or
44 not, I don't know.

45

46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I think we could appoint
47 Marilyn. She's our most active brown bear killer on the
48 Council.

49

MS. McCONNELL: Do you.....

00268

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mim.

2

3 MS. McCONNELL: You seem to know a little bit
4 about this. Do you know how often they're meeting, and how
5 long they expect this meeting stuff to go on or -- do you
6 have any idea?

7

8 MR. BOS: I believe they intend to meet over
9 the next, well, one to two years, in time to come forward to
10 the Board of Game with proposals for the next scheduled Board
11 of Game meeting affecting Southeastern Alaska. I also know
12 that they're going to have some linkages to the recreational
13 carrying capacity.....

14

15 MS. McCONNELL: Uh-hum. That's what I.....

16

17 MR. BOS:effort that the Forest.....

18

19 MS. McCONNELL:was wondering. Uh-hum.

20

21
22 MR. BOS:Service that you heard about
23 from Marty.

24

25 MS. McCONNELL: Uh-hum.

26

27 MR. BOS: And work in conjunction with that
28 in addressing those aspects of brown bear issues that relate
29 to guiding and concentrated use areas within the Tongass
30 Forest.

31

32 MS. McCONNELL: Uh-hum.

33

34 MR. BOS: So it looks like about a two-year
35 process, and they're trying to reach out to as many affected
36 interests as possible.

37

38 MS. McCONNELL: Mr. Chairman.

39

40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Gabe and then Mim.

41

42 MS. McCONNELL: Can I finish with what I.....

43

44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You weren't finished?

45

46 MS. McCONNELL: I wasn't done. The reason
47 why I asked that was because I am interested in this. It's
48 just that I'm not sure that this April 5th and 6th one is
49 going to work for me, but I would possibly be able to attend

50 future meetings for the Council. So.....

00269

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Are you looking for an
2 alternative for.....

3
4 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah. Yeah, I'll need an
5 alternative for this one maybe. That person -- maybe Wade
6 Martin would be fine I would think, and maybe I could get
7 with him, talk with him before, you know. See if he's
8 interested and we could talk about it.

9
10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's why I suggested a
11 hard copy, because you may come up with a recommendation they
12 might not accept. Gabe.

13
14 MR. GEORGE: Yeah, the information I got from
15 the office was that -- or at least at the study that they
16 presented was a brown bear study that occurred around the
17 Hoonah area, and also around the Angoon area, and around Hawk
18 Inlet. And it was relative -- real interesting, so I assume
19 our Hoonah representative would be a good person to have on
20 there, having knowledge of the hunting area and the bears,
21 you know. It was fairly -- I enjoyed reading it.

22
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. So I guess I can
24 anticipate the hard copy forthcoming?

25
26 MR. BOS: You can request one, Mr. Chairman.
27 I think the main focus of the committee is for the ABC
28 Islands, and if a member of this Council wants to participate
29 in that committee, even though you can't make the next
30 meeting, what we can do is first see if we can get a written
31 invitation, but also communicate with the chairman of that
32 committee, Greg Strauber from Gustavus. And I think they've
33 had at least one meeting so far. We can get whatever
34 materials they've developed, advise them of the Council's
35 interest to participate, and that we -- although may not be
36 able to attend the next meetings, we would want to be
37 included in subsequent meetings.

38
39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, Mim, you might drop
40 him a note and let him know you're willing to serve, but that
41 this particular meeting coming u very soon is not going to
42 work for you, but.....

43
44 MS. McCONNELL: Right.

45
46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS:the following
47 meetings.....

48
49 MS. McCONNELL: Right.

00270

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS:you should be on a
2 more stable schedule.

3
4 MS. McCONNELL: Uh-hum. And if there's
5 any.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: And that should work.

8
9 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah, if there's any other
10 Council member that would rather do it, please jump in. I
11 mean, it's, you know -- I just hate to see the ball drop on
12 this.

13
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, there's another.....

15
16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: If somebody could take
17 the first one.

18
19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS:place for it, too,
20 Mim.

21
22 MS. McCONNELL: Pardon.

23
24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: If somebody else could
25 take the first meeting, then.....

26
27 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah. I mean, we could take
28 turns or something.

29
30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mike.

31
32 MR. TUREK: Yes. Mike Turek, Division of
33 Subsistence. I can relay your message of -- requesting a
34 written invitation to Wildlife Conservation and Tom Paul when
35 I get back to Douglas, and tell him that the Council is
36 interested. They may -- they probably can't make this next
37 meeting, but they're interested in being involved with the
38 process. And I'll let him know that they -- that you would
39 like a written letter of invitation to be involved.

40
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, that should.....

42
43 MS. McCONNELL: This is.....

44
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS:(Indiscernible --
46 simultaneous speech)

47
48 MS. McCONNELL: Yeah.

49

CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

00271

1 MS. McCONNELL: This is great.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly, you can attend the
4 first meeting?

5

6 MS. GARZA: Yeah, right. The other concern I
7 have is that it sounded like there was an intent to have T&H
8 involved, and I've been trying to look over to see whether or
9 not Harold can say he was invited or not, but he is a Hoonah
10 boy, so you would think he would naturally want to be
11 involved with that. Have you been invited, Harold?

12

13 MR. MARTIN: No, not to my knowledge, unless
14 the letter went to the front office.

15

16 MS. GARZA: Okay Could you also check on
17 T&H?

18

19 MR. TUREK: Yes.

20

21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Now, I have another Hoonah
22 boy.

23

24 MS. GARZA: Yeah.

25

26 MR. GUTHRIE: That costs you a dinner if
27 you're making that.....

28

29 MS. GARZA: Forget everything I said then.

30

31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: She made him feel good
32 though for a while.

33

34 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

37

38 MS. WILSON: I just wanted to ask, are we
39 going to have an alternate since Mim can't make the meeting?

40

41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No.

42

43 MS. WILSON: Okay. It's up to.....

44

45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Annual report
46 development?

47

48 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, if you'll refer
49 to the minutes from the Haines meeting on pages 20 and 21,

50 there are several references there that the Council requested

00272

1 to be included in the annual report, and also for reference
2 to 805(d) highlights the areas that -- information that
3 should be included in the report. And there may be other
4 things that you want to have included.

5
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I think historically what
7 we've done was that a copy of the report be drafted, sent to
8 each member, give them a chance to respond, and then finalize
9 the report with any changes that are appropriate for that
10 report.

11
12 MS. McCONNELL: When's the annual report due?
13 I always forget.

14
15 MR. JOHNSON: I believe it's sometime in May.
16 I don't have that exact date either, but I believe it's
17 fairly soon.

18
19 MS. McCONNELL: Did we come up with anything
20 last fall?

21
22 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, you did. You came up with
23 several things.

24
25 MS. McCONNELL: Oh, good.

26
27 MR. JOHNSON: Both pages have a fair amount
28 of information. And I could just include that in the draft.

29
30 MS. McCONNELL: Yes, if you could do that,
31 and then we'll all mark it up and drive you crazy.

32
33 MR. JOHNSON: Sounds good.

34
35 MS. WILSON: Where are you looking?

36
37 MS. McCONNELL: Twenty, 21 on our minutes
38 from Haines.

39
40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Moving on from
41 annual report.

42
43 MS. McCONNELL: We're moving on already?

44
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yep.

46
47 MS. McCONNELL: There was something else on
48 last year's minutes, jobs in the woods program?

49

MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman.

00273

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

2

3 MS. GARZA: Under comments from public, the
4 other topics that I had brought up, the bear issue in
5 Petersburg. I'm not sure if the man from Petersburg is
6 hoping for any support or direction from this Council, or if
7 we should take any kind of action?

8

9 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

12

13 MS. WILSON: If we did take action, what kind
14 of action would we need to take? Just to support them in
15 whatever they wanted to do, and is it on State land or
16 federal land? I'm confused as usual.

17

18 MR. MARTINEZ: I'll just answer -- excuse me,
19 Charles Martinez.....

20

21 MS. GARZA: Get close.

22

23 MR. MARTINEZ: Charles Martinez from
24 Petersburg. It's on federal land, the Tongass National
25 Forest, as well as the city land. Mainly my presentation was
26 just to make people aware of our problem. The Forestry is
27 trying to take care of it by removing the animals. They have
28 been intrensid (ph). If they -- if they're sows and they're
29 pregnant, they're going to imprint the cubs as they get born.
30 In fact, that's what we had last year. There trash bears.
31 They've lived at the dump. I don't know -- the only solution
32 as far as with common sense is to put the bears down.
33 Whether this will happen, because of the different -- I was
34 going to say fern bundlers or tree huggers, but the different
35 people that are involved in making decisions in Petersburg, I
36 don't know whether it will happen. What you people can do is
37 not -- I doubt that you can do anything except maybe a nasty
38 letter, and I don't know if that would help. But I thank you
39 for listening to the complaints.

40

41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You'll be getting our bill
42 in the mail.

43

44 MR. MARTINEZ: And I'll be glad to pay it.
45 Thank you.

46

47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Put my address on it, will
48 you?

49

MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

00274

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

2

3 MS. WILSON: If we wrote a letter in support,
4 who would we direct it to?

5

6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: What would we be
7 supporting?

8

9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah.

10

11 MS. WILSON: The.....

12

13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Shooting them?

14

15 MS. WILSON: Yeah, that's right.

16

17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Tell them we want to shoot
18 them?

19

20 MS. WILSON: A letter of support.....

21

22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You sign it.

23

24 MS. WILSON:for whatever you want to
25 do.

26

27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I'm a bear hugger.

28

29 MR. MARTINEZ: One of the problems we had was
30 with law enforcement where the bear was outside at 10:00
31 o'clock at night. His wife was going to work. She could not
32 get out. He fired from the porch and was fined and ticketed.
33 Because there was so much uproar about it, this particular
34 incident was dropped. The police dropped the ticket, dropped
35 enforcing anything. I don't think it will happen again, I
36 mean, as far as the man -- the next person will be ticketed,
37 or the next child will be maimed. I think that a letter to
38 the City Council. Our mayor has finally realized what needs
39 to be done, and has taken -- and has said, let's shoot the
40 bears, and I think that we have -- we have two or three -- I
41 don't think I know we have two or three bear guides who are
42 on the ABC islands, and we have the personnel to take care of
43 the problem, we just don't have the guts to take care of the
44 problem. I think that if they realized that there are other
45 -- that this Council and other people are aware of our
46 problem and could back it.....

47

48 A story for you, I'm in Nome working, and my wife is
49 on the phone. We're on the phone. The police are at our

50 house, and they're chasing bear. They're going from one door

00275

1 to the other. They take a shoot at the bear from our porch.
2 My wife said they missed. It was ten, 12 feet away. They
3 missed completely. That's one of the problems we have. We
4 are having law enforcement personnel who are coming from
5 Connecticut and from Pennsylvania and New York trying to take
6 care of wild animals, when they have no idea of what they're
7 doing.

8
9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: They might test them for
10 illegal drugs.

11
12 MR. MARTINEZ: The police or the bears?

13
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No, the bears.

15
16 MR. MARTINEZ: In our situation, it might be
17 the police that we test for drugs. But, again, I appreciate
18 you hearing the complaint. I don't know that even a letter
19 to the Council would help.

20
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I think everybody here
22 agrees with your assessment and your resolve. But the
23 difficulty, it's a local thing. I had a confrontation with
24 the school district in Ketchikan one time, and I resolved it
25 by going right to the president of the school board. Well,
26 people were upset at me for doing that. And a member the
27 school board said, if you find the snake in your closet, you
28 don't form a snake committee, you shoot the snake. So I
29 guess that would be my advice to you. Instead of forming a
30 committee to take care of the problem.

31
32 MR. MARTINEZ: Thank you again.

33
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. How many
35 tourists can we shoot?

36
37 Any comments by the public? Observations, comments,
38 complaints? Is any public left? Agency?

39
40 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman.

41
42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dave.

43
44 MR. JOHNSON: Just a reminder, tonight at
45 6:30 is the ANB/ANS reception at 6:30 at the.....

46
47 MS. GARZA: Six o'clock.

48
49 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Dolly.

00276

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is it at six?

2
3 MR. JOHNSON: 6:30 is.....

4
5 MS. GARZA: I thought it was six.

6
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, I was told 6:30
8 according to one of the cooks yesterday.

9
10 MS. GARZA: Okay. 6:30.

11
12 MR. JOHNSON: I thought it was announced at
13 6:30, but that's what I wrote down, but.....

14
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: 6:30 is what I was told.

16
17 MS. GARZA: Okay.

18
19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. It's very improbable
20 that even I'll be wrong at the same time. Be early and be
21 squirrely.

22
23 MR. JOHNSON: Also I have several packets of
24 jobs information here that was sent down by Fish and Wildlife
25 Service. If any of the representatives from the Council
26 would like a packet, or if there's anybody here in the
27 audience that would like a packet, there's five packets of
28 information. So you're more than welcome to take one of
29 those.

30
31 MS. McCONNELL: What is it?

32
33 MR. JOHNSON: Jobs information, information
34 on how to obtain federal job information.

35
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Don't give me one of those.

37
38 MS. McCONNELL: You mean like work?

39
40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah.

41
42 MR. JOHNSON: It's -- yes.

43
44 MS. McCONNELL: Why would I want another.....

45
46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I don't want one even in
47 the same room.

48
49 MR. JOHNSON: That's all I have, Mr.

50 Chairman.

00277

1 MS. GARZA: Maybe set one aside for Sitka
2 Tribe.

3
4 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's worse than bears.
5 Okay. Were you speaking as agency or staff?

6
7 MR. JOHNSON: I was speaking as agency.

8
9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Any staff comments.
10 No staff comments. Council member comments. Dolly.

11
12 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I always have great
13 objection to people who leave us, especially when they do
14 such a good job, and sometimes I think it's kind of weird
15 that we always give people gifts for leaving when we should
16 be giving us gifts for staying. But I know that despite all
17 the ups and downs that we've had as Council, that it's our
18 differences that make us strong as a Council as a whole, and
19 I think that to have two Council people leave in the same
20 year is really hard. I feel like a hole is being left, and
21 we've already informed them that they can't really leave
22 until they can insure us that someone qualified and good will
23 be replacing them. So we may see them at the November
24 meeting in Angoon, if that's where the meeting will be held.

25
26 But I do have two gifts to thank them, so that they
27 can look at it and wish that they were with us again, and
28 maybe resubmit their name in a year or two after they've
29 taken a short pause. So these books are from the Council
30 members to thank you for all your dedication and time and we
31 know that both of you have put in far more time than just the
32 time you've spent at the meetings, and we do appreciate it.
33 These books called First Fish, First People give a good view
34 of subsistence or cultural uses not only important to Alaska
35 Natives, but cultures throughout the North Pacific and
36 throughout the world still have a strong dependence on use of
37 resources, and this -- these writings try to capture that.
38 And I think they're very well written and so hopefully you'll
39 read them and wish you were with us again. Thank you.

40
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Further Council
42 comments. Okay. John.

43
44 MR. VALE: Yeah, I'd like to say a few
45 parting words. Thanks for the book and the words, Dolly.
46 Being involved in this process, I'll try not to get too
47 choked up here. Being involved in this process has meant a
48 lot to me, and, you know, I walk away with it with the
49 knowledge that this process has worked well. I greatly

50 appreciate the efforts that the Staff has put in ever since

00278

1 the program has come about. I've learned a lot. I've
2 learned that our government works when we have professionals
3 like you involved. All the work that I've seen from day one
4 has been excellent, accurate, and I really appreciate the
5 work that you guys have put into this. And also will walk
6 away with appreciation for the friendship that I've developed
7 with all you guys, and look forward to seeing you again.
8 Thanks.

9
10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Anybody else. Gabe.

11
12 MR. GEORGE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. Good-bye.

13
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That was long.

15
16 MS. McCONNELL: Just too choked up.

17
18 MR. GEORGE: Yeah.

19
20 MS. GARZA: Just for that, we're not going to
21 Angoon.

22
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Any other Council comments.
24 Okay. I think we had another successful meeting. They seem
25 to be getting better. I think they are. We've got to start
26 all over again to fill a gap left by Gabe and by John, and we
27 don't know who else. There's five appointees that will have
28 to be made this year, and so we don't know who those five are
29 going to be. So I hope that the chemistry and the dynamics
30 of the Council isn't disrupted to a point where you have to
31 go back to another point of starting. That would be a pretty
32 severe setback.

33
34 I want to express the same expressions to Staff and
35 the agencies for their participation.

36
37 I think we have a unique existence here. We have a
38 compatible dynamics. We have the ability to deal with
39 challenges, confrontations, reach resolves, agree to
40 disagree, and I think we've established some friendships that
41 even involve some social activities. We've had different
42 levels of sharing with each other. I think all those are
43 virtues, and I appreciate those, and I know you folks do as
44 well.

45
46 And I want to thank you for the support that you've
47 given me for being your chairman for these years. It's a
48 terrific vote of confidence, and -- but that's not going to
49 last forever either, and I understand that. But thank you

50 for being here, and we look forward to seeing you at more

00279

1 meetings.

2

3 And having said that, we need to discuss a schedule
4 for Angoon.

5

6 MR. ANDERSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, I thought
7 you just said that being Gabe is not going to be on the
8 Board, that we'd better look for another place?

9

10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No, no, I didn't say that.

11

12

13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: But I said it.

14

15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I didn't say that.

16

17 MR. ANDERSON: I retract that statement.

18

19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I never argue with a camp
20 of the ANB/ANS, and that's where we got the invite from.

21

22 MR. ANDERSON: I retract those remarks.

23

24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Because I was going to
25 report you to their Camp. Looking at your calendar in the
26 last page of your -- well, not quite the last page but pretty
27 close to it. There's a calendar in the back. What's the
28 wish of the Council?

29

30 MR. ANDERSON: How does the ferry run?

31

32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: With a propeller.

33

34 MR. GEORGE: Three times a week, sometimes
35 more. Yeah, three times north, three times south, except on
36 the end of the month.

37

38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: My only stipulation is I've
39 got to be in Ketchikan on the 2nd and 3rd of October for me.

40

41 MS. WILSON: Does anybody know when the ANB
42 convention is?

43

44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, I do. November 7th
45 through 15th.

46

47 MS. WILSON: Oh, that's right.

48

49 MR. SORUM: Mr. Chairman.

00280

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, Alan.

2

3 MR. SORUM: Just a suggestion, I would like
4 to see it in the middle of the week as late as possible.
5 That's about all I could suggest.

6

7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: How about September 29th or
8 October 6th?

9

10 MR. WILLIS: Mr. Chair, excuse me.

11

12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Oh, yeah, Kodiak/Aleutians
13 are on the 29th, yeah, I was afraid of that.

14

15 MS. McCONNELL: It looks like it would be the
16 12th, 13th, 14th or 26th, 27th, 28th or 2, 3, 4 of November,
17 middle of the week.

18

19 MS. WILSON: Alan, when did you say, the
20 middle of the week?

21

22 MR. SORUM: Middle of the week, late, is what
23 I'd like but that's just one person.

24

25 MS. GARZA: Late, you mean October or
26 November?

27

28 MR. SORUM: Yeah, November would be great.

29

30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: How about October 20 and
31 21?

32

33 MR. ANDERSON: That's overlapping.

34

35 MS. MASON: That's okay.

36

37 MR. ANDERSON: AFN.

38

39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: 13th and 14th.

40

41 MS. PHILLIPS: 27, 28.

42

43 MR. SORUM: Make a motion and I'll second it.

44

45 MS. PHILLIPS: So moved, October 27 and 28.

46

47 MR. SORUM: Second.

48

49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It's been moved and

50 seconded, October 27 and 28.

00281

1 MS. RUDOLPH: Does the ferry run at the end
2 of the week or the middle of the week or.....

3
4 MS. WILSON: We need to know when the ferry
5 runs.

6
7 MS. PHILLIPS: Oh, you mean the ferry into
8 Angoon you mean?

9
10 MR. GEORGE: There's a ferry, you know, like
11 the one I jumped on that got in here two days ago. And then
12 there's one on Friday that comes from the north, and then it
13 turns around and goes back.

14
15 MR. SORUM: Well, wouldn't Staff be able to
16 kind of flex that to the best advantage anyway, you know,
17 just as a guide.

18
19 MS. PHILLIPS: Right, as a guide, so moved.

20
21 MS. GARZA: Question.

22
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: What's the motion?

24
25 MS. GARZA: 27, 28th as a guide, ferry
26 dependent. We want to be able to get out of there.

27
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So that's a positive maybe.

29
30 MR. GEORGE: So there's always a Friday ferry
31 coming to Sitka.

32
33 MS. GARZA: So 27, 28.

34
35 MR. ANDERSON: Wednesday and Thursday.

36
37 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, we got no proposals
38 in so we should be able to finish in two days.

39
40 MR. GEORGE: I'd recognize that, you know,
41 fish will be October 1st.

42
43 MR. ANDERSON: I might run my boat up.

44
45 MR. GEORGE: If the State doesn't do
46 anything.

47
48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, further discussion.
49 All those in favor say aye.

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1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Those opposed.

4

5 (No opposing responses)

6

7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Motion carries.

8

9 MS. WILSON: What days of the week is that?

10

11 MS. McCONNELL: Wednesday, Thursday.

12

13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Wednesday, Thursday.

14

15 MR. GEORGE: Mr. Chair.

16

17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Gabe.

18

19 MR. GEORGE: Before Fred left us so there was
20 going to be some coordination with Staff to work with the
21 Angoon people before the meeting; I was wondering if that's
22 still a possibility to work on.

23

24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Work on what?

25

26 MR. GEORGE: Give you something to do.

27

28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Cut wood.

29

30 MR. GEORGE: I'd be happy to work with you
31 even though I won't be a part. But if we can get together
32 great.

33

34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Next item is
35 adjourn.

36

37 MR. ANDERSON: So moved, Mr. Chair.

38

39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We are adjourned. Thank
40 you very much.

41

42 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

43

44 * * * * *

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the
State of Alaska and Owner of Computer Matrix, do hereby
certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 146 through 282
contain a full, true and correct Transcript of VOLUME II,
SOUTHEAST FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL COUNCIL PUBLIC
MEETING, taken electronically by Salena Hile on the 18th day
of March, 1999, beginning at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m. at
the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
Building, Sitka, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript
requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by
Ms. Hile to the best of her knowledge and ability;

THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party
interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 28th day of March,
1999.

Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 4/17/00